

EXCHANGES:
Closing Quotations—
T.T. London 34.534d.
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The Hongkong Telegraph

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October 18, 1918. Temperature 6 a.m. 76 3 p.m. 82
Humidity 91 71

October 18, 1917. Temperature 6 a.m. 74 3 p.m. 82
Humidity 79 61

8076 日四十月九

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1918.

五拜禮 號八十月十英港

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REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE ALLIED DRIVE.

Germans Feeling Heavy Wastage.

CAPTURE OF COLOSSAL QUANTITIES OF MATERIAL.

London, October 18.
Reuter's correspondent at British Headquarters, writing this evening, says:—Though the Germans have hitherto conducted the enforced retirement with considerable skill, the wastage of men and material is beginning to tell seriously, as the rapidity of the development of the Belgian drive testifies. Thourout is surrounded and the whole situation is so liquid that the infantry advance in many places has broken up into detached forces. The material captured is colossal.

More Allied Captures.

London, October 18.
Reuter learns that the Americans have captured Grandpre. Southwest of Lille and west of Carvin the enemy is retreating, also immediately west of Lille, where we have reached the outskirts of Haubertin.

In Flanders we have captured Rulais and Bavichova.

French Progress.

London, October 18.
A French communique states:—We slightly progressed during the night north of Sissonne.

North of Aisfeld, we checked a violent counter-attack supported by numerous artillery.

In the region of St. Germain Mont, south-west of Bethel, we captured the village of Aoy.

Successes Everywhere.

Lyons, October 18.
A French wireless message states:—The offensive military operations, which were started on Monday by the French and Belgian troops under the orders of King Albert, have been continued everywhere with equal success. A fresh advance of from five to six kilometres has been made.

The Belgians are on the outskirts of Thourout. The French have passed the Lichtervelde-Boulers railway.

The British have pressed on to the outskirts of Courtrai. They have taken Menin, with 12,000 prisoners and 100 guns.

On Tuesday the British forces were four kilometres from Lille. They have crossed the Haute-deule Canal between Lille and Douai.

Between the Oise and the Aisne the French line has been advanced and now runs along the Serre on a front of 20 kilometres. The French have taken 800 fresh prisoners.

British Capture 4,000 Prisoners.

London, October 18.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—In the towns and villages captured by the Second Army many civilians were freed. We have captured over 4,000 prisoners and upwards of 150 guns. We dropped ten tons of bombs on railways and hostile centres.

THE BALKAN CAMPAIGN.

Allies Continue Their Progress.

London, October 18.
A French Eastern communique states:—The Allies are continuing their advance towards Northern Serbia. The Serbians have captured Veliki and Yesterebas massif and reached twenty kilometres northward of Nish, taking a large number of prisoners. In Albania the enemy is retiring upon Ipek.

THE PALESTINE CAMPAIGN.

Further Captures Reported.

London, October 18.
A Palestine official message says:—At the occupation of Beirut on the 8th inst. we took prisoner sixty Turkish officers and 600 men.

Armoured car batteries entered Bialbek on the 9th inst. and ascertained that 500 Turks had surrendered to the inhabitants. Advanced cavalry and armoured cars occupied Tripoli and Hama without opposition.

BRITAIN RECOGNISES POLISH NATIONAL ARMY.

London, October 18.
Reuter learns that the Government has recognised the Polish National Army as an autonomous Allied co-belligerent.

TREATMENT OF WAR PRISONERS.

Strong Feeling Manifested In House of Lords.

London, October 18.
In the House of Lords a debate on the treatment of British prisoners of war in Germany evoked an outburst of strong feeling. Lord Newton, on behalf of the Government, said the Government since the beginning of the war had kept a careful list relating to the conduct of all German Prison Commandants, which contained a large number of men against whom very much could be said. He expressed the hope that when the day of reckoning came these would not be allowed to escape but would be held personally responsible to pay the penalty for their actions.

ANOTHER ATTEMPT ON M. LENIN'S LIFE.

Amsterdam, October 18.
A message from Kiev reports a new attempt to assassinate M. Lenin, who was shot in the shoulder.

FRENCH AIRMAN KILLED.

Amsterdam, October 18.
A message from Berlin says the French airman, M. Garros, was killed on the 4th inst.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE PEACE EFFORT.

A Joyous Demonstration at Antwerp.

GERMAN LAMENT OVER PENDING DEFEAT.

London, October 18.
Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam says there was immense excitement at Antwerp when it became known that Germany was willing to accept the evacuation proposals.

Patriotic songs were sung at a cinema and the Belgian flag dramatically raised to a house-top and flown an hour before an order came to take it down. The owner of the flag was arrested but was afterwards released.

An Unconfirmed Report.

London, October 18.
A message from Amsterdam says the *Nieuwe Rotterdamse Courant*, being unable to obtain confirmation, withdraws the bulletin reporting the capitulation of Germany and the abdication of the Kaiser.

Without Foundation.

London, October 17.
The Press Bureau is officially informed that the reports published during the afternoon that Germany has capitulated are without foundation.

A Candid German Confession.

Amsterdam, October 18.
The following passage from *Voorwaarts*, which represents the views of the Cabinet member, Herr Schiedeman, is noteworthy when taken in conjunction with the reports of the German surrender:—
"The war is coming to an end in such a manner as no German desired. Let us say, therefore, quite candidly, that during all these terrible four years the aim of all our efforts and sacrifices has been to prevent such an end."

The Real Stumbling Block.

London, October 18.
Mr. Aquith, in a speech in London, after paying a tribute to the Army's achievements, said it was the Navy's untiring vigilance which had drained drop by drop the reservoir of the enemy's power. President Wilson's Reply was exactly what was required. The real stumbling block to an armistice or negotiation was the fact that we were dealing with an enemy whose hands were useless and whose word was untrustworthy. The ex-Premier spoke optimistically of the fast-approaching end of the war.

An Interesting Parallel.

Lyons, October 18.
According to a French wireless message, the French Press is unanimous in praising the reply of President Wilson. The *Journal des Debats* says:—The Washington Note has broken up the German diplomatic front. Prince Max of Baden has been smashed in the same manner as the Hindenburg Line.

Unrest in Bohemia.

Lyons, October 18.
A French wireless message states:—A general strike has broken out at Prague. This may develop into a revolutionary movement.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

THE PEACE QUESTION.

Turkey's Separate Move.

Paris, Oct. 15.
The first act of Tewfik Pasha's new Turkish Government is to send a note to the Austro-Hungarian Government stating that owing to the military situation Turkey is forced to conclude a separate peace. The Turkish Minister has presented the Spanish Government a note from the Ottoman Government asking the opening of negotiations regarding peace and an armistice. The Turks beg the United States Government to undertake the task of opening peace negotiations.—Havas.

Reuter learns that the Turkish situation is unchanged and no immediate fresh developments are anticipated.

President Wilson Praised.

London, Oct. 15.
Statements of democratic and Republican Senators enthusiastically acclaim President Wilson's note and reveal the satisfaction of parties thereto. Senator Lodge, who criticised the former note, expresses genuine pleasure and says the last clause is eminently satisfactory and brings a sense of relief to the American people. Mr. Hitchcock, Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, said that President Wilson had removed all doubts as to the wisdom of his course.

French Opinion.

Paris, Oct. 18.
The official text of the German reply has been received in Washington. Opinion grows stronger in Allied countries that no terms except unconditional surrender can be accepted. The view of the French people is that at present conversations are full of danger, and that President Wilson will consider it unnecessary to continue the discussion. France is profoundly convinced that Germany wants no peace but an armistice. Mr. Hughes, Australian Premier speaking at the Paris Foreign Ministry, said the armistice must be left to Marshal Foch.—Havas.

The Allies' Solidarity.

Rome, Oct. 15.
The Italian press unanimously endorses the necessity of President Wilson's demand for the most stringent guarantees and emphasises the diplomatic solidarity of France, Italy, Great Britain and America.

Allied Endorsement.

London, Oct. 15.
Speaking at Manchester Mr. Churchill said the Allies wholeheartedly endorsed President Wilson's reply.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

THE PEACE QUESTION.

German Government Forced.

Washington, Oct. 18.
The Associated Press states that (1) forced the German Government to seek an armistice and insisted on the desperate condition of the army and the exhaustion of raw materials. The Chancellor strongly opposed it but was overruled by the majority of the War Council. Hence the latest German note is signed by Dr. Solf, the Foreign Minister.

Reported Acceptance of U. S. Terms.

Amsterdam, Oct. 18.
A message from Berlin states that Germany accepts all President Wilson's conditions, provided assurance is given that the interests of the German people are safeguarded.

German Decisions.

Copenhagen, Oct. 18.
A message from Berlin states: The Federal Council has passed a Bill making it and the Reichstag's assent necessary to make war or peace. The Socialist party resolved in view of the general political situation not to object to Prince Max remaining Chancellor. The meeting of the Reichstag has been postponed. Prince Friedrich Karl has intimated that he is not yet certain that he will accept the Finnish Crown.

Has Germany Capitulated?

London, Oct. 16.
The "Nieuwe Rotterdamse Courant" issues a special bulletin giving a report from Hamburg that Germany has capitulated and the Kaiser has abdicated.

The Kaiser's Position.

London, Oct. 18.
Reuter learns that the Foreign Office has not received official confirmation that the Kaiser has abdicated but opinion in well-informed circles is not disposed to reject the reports as impossible.

British Press Comment.

London, Oct. 16.
The press is unanimous in its approval of President Wilson's appreciation of the British attitude. The "Daily Telegraph" says it is one of the hardest hitting diplomatic communications ever published and it will prove a decisive blow to the system responsible for the war. The "Daily Chronicle" says the President does not close the door to negotiations but leaves no opening for side-tracking correspondence. His prompt rejoinder to Dr. Solf allows the German nation to realise exactly where it stands. The "Morning Post" says that President Wilson deserves the gratitude of the civilised world for saving the situation. The "Daily News" says it is the most momentous declaration of world policy ever uttered and it is sanctioned by the democracy of every land. The German people will know their enemy is indeed Potsdam. The "Daily Express" says: The Germans must choose whether they will live free men or die slaves.

The "Daily Mail" says President Wilson justifies all the high hopes the Allied nations reposed in him. The "Times" says: We in England set the most exact standard for President Wilson's reply and he has satisfied it. The reply ends all idea of a bargained peace. The "Times" warns against talk of enemy surrender at a moment when all our strength is most needed but urges the necessity of preparing for peace by immediate establishment of a united Allied political front to meet attempts that the enemy will certainly make to divide the Allies at the settlement.

French and German Opinion.

Paris, Oct. 16.
The Senators unanimously approve President Wilson's note. The "Temps" applauding it singles out the wisdom of replying separately to Austria and is of opinion that an answer is now expected from the German people itself. The following independent and spontaneous testimony reveals the Berlin note, cabled last evening in its true light. A message from Amsterdam says: The Germans are driving out tens of thousands of fugitives utterly without anything from northern France. They were not permitted to enter Brussels. The Germans moreover are stripping sections of the Belgian railways of all zinc, copper, etc.

The German press is disappointed at President Wilson's reply. The "Cologne Gazette" declares that the hope of peace is now lessened.

In the Senate a number of Senators passed a resolution requesting the Government to continue with the Allies in insisting on reparations for the enemy devastations and violations of International Law. M. Pichon, the Foreign Minister, welcomed the resolution and assured them that the perpetrators would be appropriately punished.

Early Reply Expected.

London, Oct. 16.
Reuter learns that advices have reached London that the German reply to President Wilson is expected immediately. It is likely to constitute a general acceptance of President Wilson's conditions.

Anti-Dynastic Demonstrations in Berlin.

London, Oct. 16.
The "Daily Mail's" correspondent at the Hague says: There were anti-dynastic demonstrations at Berlin on Oct. 10. Several famous Hohenzollern statues in United den Linden were smashed. Thousands struck at Essen on Oct. 10 and the strikers paraded the town singing revolutionary songs, insulting the Kaiser, Hindenburg and Ludendorff, and demanding peace. A telegram from Limburg reports that increasing numbers of Germans are entering Holland.

AERIAL RAIDS.

London, Oct. 15.
The Press Bureau reporting on the Independent Force states: Thick mist, clouds and rain hindered operations, but we attacked Fressaty Aerodrome. One bomb from a height of forty feet pierced the roof of a Zeppelin shed blowing out the windows. Another bomb wrecked a hangar. Mechanics who ran out after the explosions were machine-gunned and some made casualties. The ground defences were apparently surprised and did not attempt to fire until the attack was over. All returned.
(Continued on page 8.)

WEATHER FORECAST.

FAIR.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

(The opinions expressed by correspondents are not necessarily those of the "Hongkong Telegraph.")

ACT NOW!

(To the Editor of the "Hongkong Telegraph.")

Sir,—As it has been the traditional policy of your paper to keep the Colony enlightened as to the underhand methods of the German business-man, may I through your popular columns sound a note of warning to "those of pure European British descent" who through adverse circumstances are barred from taking an active part in confounding the enemy?

As it is not considered good form in this British outpost to use strong adjectives when referring to our German enemies, I will endeavour to write of them in the most polite terms.

It is a fact, that we seldom open our letters or newspapers without finding a notice that some acquaintance, friend or relative has lost his life or been ill-treated through coming too close to the gentle German. The best way in my humble opinion to avoid these unpleasant experiences would be:—not to permit the *stern* of being to come amongst us.

Happily at present there exist restraining circumstances that prevent his presence here in force but there is a fear lest these soon be removed and the German merchant and official resume their former activities, undermining our trade and gradually controlling the policy of the colony. If we are in earnest about keeping them out, we must remember that when the harsh mandate was issued in London to close down all enemy firms here, very few took any interest as to what became of the junior partners and co-proprietors. Is it true that some of these have opened businesses of their own? If so, the German influence, instead of being dead, will only need fanning to flame on the arrival of the first neutral ships from Europe. If we are in earnest as to keeping ourselves clear of the polluting German influence let us change the name of "Black-head's Hill" to say "Belgian Prince" or "Lusitania Hill" and publish it broadcast; let us sometimes have a British patriotic piece of music played in the hotels and cinemas, copy the example of Singapore and let the public see the film—"My four years in Germany." Above all, let us form a crusade against all things German to root out their influence, which in spite of camouflage, is still a force to be reckoned with and more deadly because we are too blind to see it. I appeal to the officers and engineers of the port not to sail in ships commanded by Germans or their friends, and also to every Briton who can crawl not to wait and see but act at once and bring to the notice of the authorities any suspicion they may have of any move that would be helpful to the enemy either now or in the future.

I do not write this letter on my own initiative but after consultation with numerous friends in the Colony who are unable on account of the Defence of the Realm Act to voice their opinions. Yours etc.

CHAS. E. PAGE.

Hongkong, Oct. 18, 1918.

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cost of from \$5,000,000 to
\$6,000,000. The scheme will
include a base for the renewal of
material and equipment.

Grandmother's Arrest for Murder.

Mrs. Gold, of 5, Albert-road,
Bromford, found her two-year-old
daughter lying dead on a bed in
an upper room recently and called
the police, who found that the
little girl had been strangled,
evidently with a piece of string.
Later in the day Mrs. Lizzie
Wright, of Waterloo-road, Rom-
ford, the child's grandmother, was
arrested on suspicion of having
murdered the girl, and was
medically examined, and sent to
the mental ward of the workhouse
infirmary to be kept under
observation. She had only left
the infirmary the previous day.

German Mouths in Switzerland.

German journals refer with in-
dignation to the fact that the
President of the Swiss Confedera-
tion has declared that the influx
of strangers, especially Germans
and Austrians, who come in these
days to Switzerland to feed well,
is beginning to be dangerous to
Switzerland itself. These strangers
having too many needs it is im-
possible to satisfy, the result is
that hotel managers are obliged
to monopolize great quantities
of provisions and take them
away from the Swiss population,
who are themselves suffering.
The President declared that a
law would be proposed shortly
according to which the quantities
of provisions held for strangers
in Switzerland will have to be
taken into account as a subject of
compensation to be given by the
respective countries. The Ger-
man Press demand if this is still
neutrality, or if Switzerland has
passed openly to the side of the
enemies of Germany.

Enemy's Giant Plane.

Mention was made in one of
Sir Douglas Haig's air reports
on Sunday night that one of two
hostile night-bombing aeroplanes
brought down was fitted with
five engines. A famous aviation
expert says he believes this is the
first German machine with five
engines captured by us. "The
engines," he said, "are probably
of the Mercedes type, developing
200 horse-power each, thus
making an aggregate propelling
force of 1,000 horse-power. It
has not come altogether as a sur-
prise to us. We have been aware
of the existence of some of these
five-engined machines, in addition
to many of the enemy 'giants',
which have four engines develop-
ing high power for night bombing
work." Another expert confirm-
ed the idea that it was the first
machine of its kind to be brought
down by us. "There is nothing
very extraordinary about the five
engines," he remarked. "It is
only a question of standardisation
after all."

Bar on War Widows.

That a law should be enacted
in Germany preventing widows
from remarrying, so as to leave
the few available men for the
single, is the proposition made by
a Munich doctor, Hans von Hartig,
in a letter to the 'Tag'. Hartig
points out, says a Central News
Zurich message, that the widows
throughout remarrying after the war
would have a detrimental effect
on the birth-rate as most of
them are mothers already.
"On December 1, 1910," he
writes, "there were in Ger-
many about 300,000 widows
between the ages of 15 and 45. At
a very modest estimate there are
now 800,000. In 911, 25,515
widows remarried in Germany;
but the war widows must, on the
whole, be younger and more at-
tractive, and their chances of
remarriage are therefore much
greater. In 1911 512,818 wo-
men were married, and if there
were a similar number of mar-
riages this year it is probable
that over 200,000 of the widows
arising from the war would be
widows. In normal times 25
per cent. of the bride are single
women, and if widows monopolize
40 per cent. of the marriages it
means that the opportunities of
single girls are reduced to 15
per cent."

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GENERAL NEWS.

America's \$10,000 for Maternity.
A grant of \$10,000 has been made to the Royal Free Hospital by the American Red Cross Commission for the extension of the Maternity Department. It has been decided to take over and extend the Maternity Hospital hitherto supported by the Duchess of Marlborough. This provides for the treatment of 20 patients, and it is intended to provide 50 beds for maternity cases. It is also intended to provide at this centre midwifery training for the nursing staff of the Royal Free Hospital and other pupils.

Food Riots in Spain.

The Paris edition of the *New York Herald* publishes a telegram from Madrid, according to which the situation in Spain is growing daily more serious, owing to the scarcity of food and the increased cost of living, the state of unrest being marked by frequent riots and collisions with the police. On August 6, seven people were severely injured in a riot at Guadalajara. At Murcia the unemployed marched in procession demanding work or bread. Similar manifestations have taken place in Castellon de la Plana, Castro Urdiales, Saragossa, Ciudad Real, Granada, Bilbao, and Malaga.

Ammonia from the Air.

According to Sir William Tilden, who spoke at King's College recently, the Government have instituted investigations as to the best process of bringing into use the nitrogen of the air, and combining it with hydrogen in order to produce ammonia. Every owner of a plot of land, he proceeded, was asking for sulphate of ammonia, and the Government were about to establish a very large installation of the necessary plant. Women were taking part in scientific investigation and discovery in increasing numbers. "I wish I could tell you something about the work they are doing," said Sir William, "but as it is chiefly secret work for the Government I cannot."

U.S. Grain Reserve.

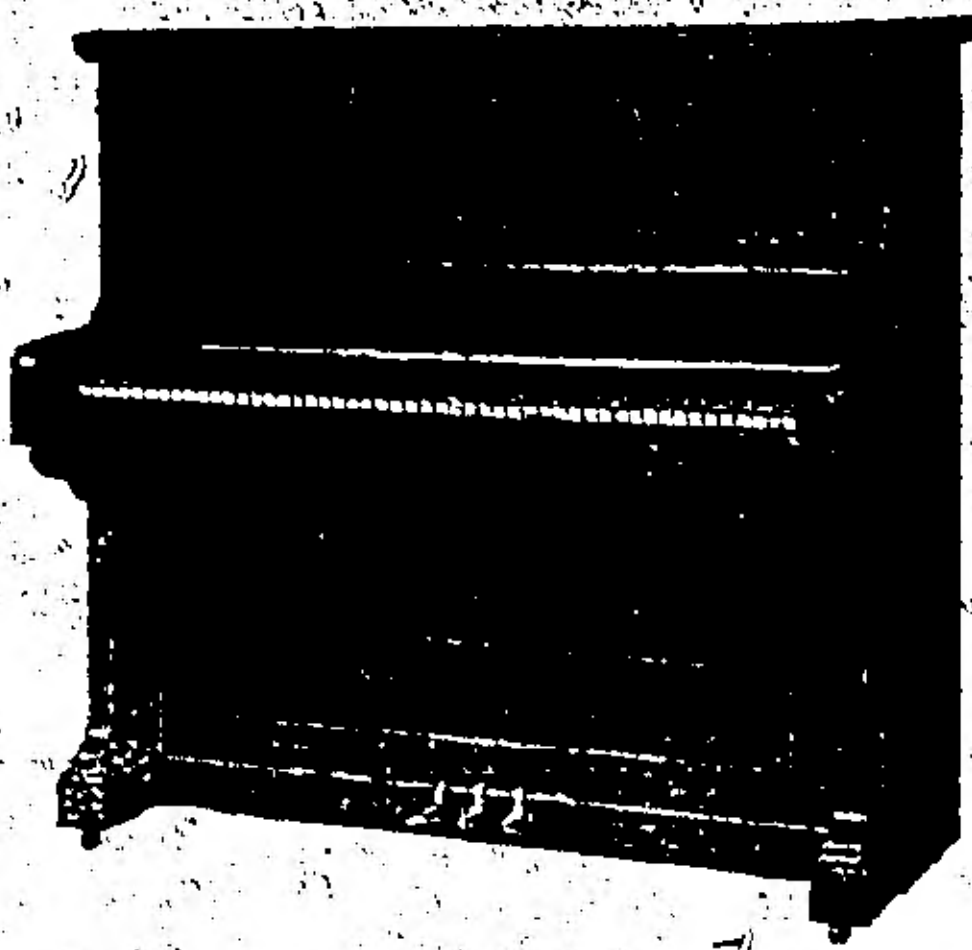
A wireless message from Washington announces that despite the enormous shipments that have been made by the United States for the benefit of the Allies, the stock of foodstuffs now held by dealers in America is more than ample for all prospective needs. The United States Food Administration has completed a survey of the country's grain storage facilities, which shows a capacity of 923,747,834 bushels. Four of the big inland cities each show a storage capacity of 100,000,000 bushels. This, together with the smaller scattered granaries on farms, provides a storage reserve for grain against all the future needs of the United States and her Allies, and also of neutral countries.

Bloodthirsty Prussian Pastor.

The Prussian Conservative party has adopted the notorious militant pastor, the Rev. D. Philipp, as its candidate at the election for the Prussian Chamber of Deputies, which will shortly take place in the constituency of Stolpe-Lauenburg. Philipp is the Protestant Pan-German who from time to time, since the beginning of the war, has given utterance to remarkably blasphemous opinions. Among his recorded utterances was the one which he wrote in a weekly "religious" paper, the *Reformation*:—"Thank God that war came. I make this declaration to-day in the third year of war. Thank God that we have not yet concluded peace. I declare this to-day in spite of all the sacrifices of war. Therefore I say once again God be praised that we are at war. War alone can rescue the German nation. War is the best surgeon's knife with which the Divine Doctor of Humanity cuts open the frightful poisonous abscess from which humanity is suffering—the pre-dominance of England. Again I say God be praised that we have not yet concluded peace, because if we had peace this abscess would not be cured, but would become more and more poisonous and more and more dangerous."

NOTICES.

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GENERAL NEWS.

Savages Kill Traders.
News has reached Sydney by steamer that two white traders have been murdered by the natives in one of the outlying islands of New Britain (east of New Guinea). The victims were surrounded by hordes of savages, who butchered them. The Press reports that a private punitive party attacked the natives, who were well armed and fought desperately, but sixty were shot down.

Late Tsar's Diary.
A Moscow telegram, via Berlin, says:—"The newspaper *Byenoda* learns that the late Tsar's diaries, extending over a period of 36 years, will be published in 36 parts. The diaries for the years 1905 to 1917 will be published first. "On the day of the Tsar's accession to the throne appears this entry:—"All around are treachery, cowardice, and deception."

Germany's U-Boat Losses.
Some disappointment has been expressed at Mr. Lloyd George's statement that 150 German submarines have been destroyed. It was thought that the figure was much higher. It is pointed out, however, that at the start of the war Germany had only 28 submarines, and that she had not begun her wholesale piracy until 1915. The total number of submarines turned out may be estimated at 360, including the original 28. It is probably correct that we have sunk something like 50 per cent. of those which have put to sea. Only about a third of the number the Germans possess are at sea at any one time, and there are crippled, roughly speaking, 15 to 20 per cent. of the number sunk.

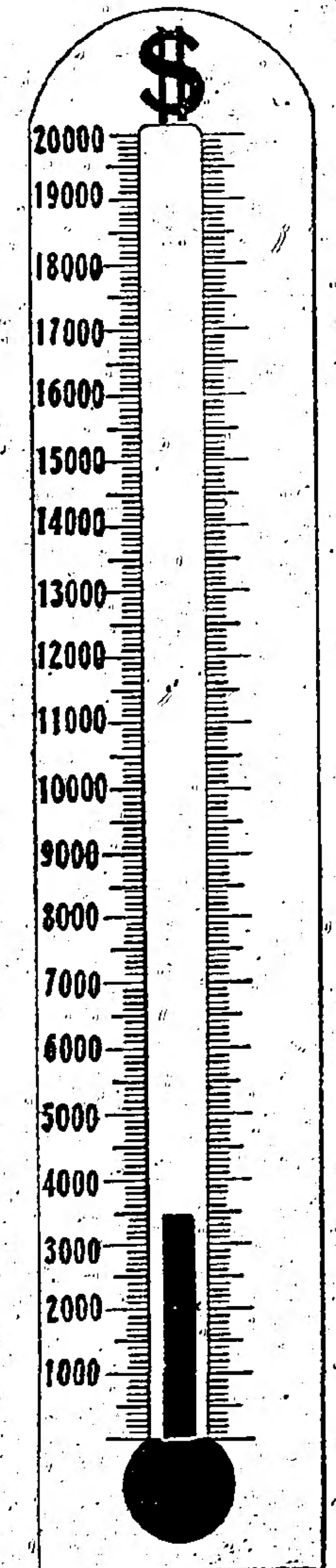
THE HONGKONG & SOUTH CHINA WAR SAVINGS ASSOCIATION.

APPLICATION forms for Membership of the above Association may be obtained from all the Banks or from the undersigned.

THE UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LTD.

Hongkong, 15th January, 1917.

LADY MAY'S ROSE FUND.



Subscriptions received LAST YEAR by Lady May previous to "OUR DAY" amounted to \$12,861.00 and it is hoped that subscriptions this year will exceed \$20,000. All subscriptions will be acknowledged in the newspapers and the thermometer altered to show the amount received to date. It is hoped that residents in the ports of South China, who will be unable to visit Hongkong on "OUR DAY" will avail themselves of this opportunity to subscribe to the fund through this medium. All subscribers will receive a special rose.

Prepaid Advertisements.

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TO BE LET.—One large OFFICE ROOM on second floor of Prince's Building. Apply to:—H.M.E. NEMAZEE.

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Take a friend with you and do 90 miles to the gallon

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DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP CO., LIMITED.

THE Ordinary General Meeting of the above Company will be held at the Company's Office at NOON on SATURDAY the 19th of October 1918.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 5th to the 19th of October both days inclusive.

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & CO. General Managers. Hongkong, 25th September, 1918.



Fighting Our Battles.

You have been saved this frightful work. Don't save your dollars but spare a few for those poor fellows over there and buy

Hongkong St. Andrew's Society

WAR BOND TICKETS

31st December, 1918. Tickets on Sale at All Banks, Hotels, Clubs & Restaurants.

NOTICES.

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THE PHARMACY Tel. 345. 22, Queen's Road Central.

NOTICES.

G. 2222 R. GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION No. 5, 275.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that sealed tenders, in duplicate, which should be clearly marked "Tender for Medical Department Contract," will be received at the Colonial Secretary's Office until NOON of THURSDAY, the 31st October 1918, for the supply of Aerated Waters; Bedding and Clothing; Bess Spirits Wines etc.; Spirit of Wine; Chemicals, Drugs, Surgical Instruments, and Sundries; Furniture, etc.; Milk, etc.; Provisions; Sundries; and Washing; (Schedules Nos. 1 to 10) required locally by this Department for the period of one year from the first of January next inclusive.

Application should be made to the Colonial Secretary's Office for the necessary forms of tender. All other information may be obtained from the Principal Civil Medical Officer at the Civil Hospital.

J. T. O. JOHNSON, Principal Civil Medical Officer. Hongkong, 15th October, 1918.

NOTICES.

4% FRENCH GOVERNMENT LOAN 1918.

(Rente Perpetuelle 4%)

Price of issue Frs. 70.80 yielding a net income of 5.65% Bearing interest from the 16th October 1918.

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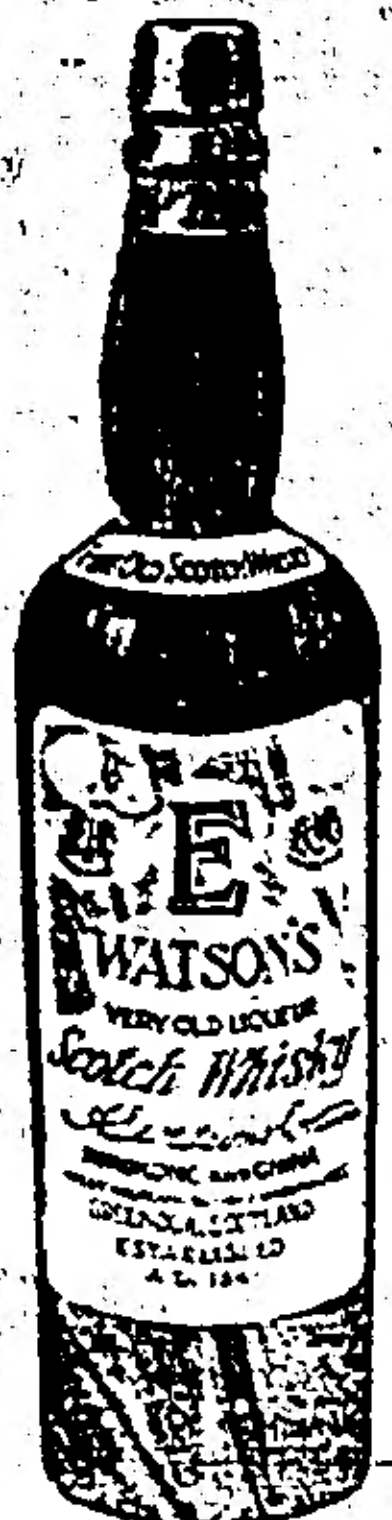
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WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,

TELEPHONE 616.



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All communications intended for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

Business correspondence should be sent to the Manager.

Cable Address: Telegraph, Hongkong.

Telephone: No. 1 A.B.C., 5th edition. Western Union
Office address: 11, Ice House St.

DEATH.

CLARK.—Jasper Clark, killed in action in France, October 2, 1918.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1918.

EDUCATION OF EUROPEAN CHILDREN.

The debate which took place on the Colony's Budget at yesterday's meeting of the Legislative Council deserves to be described as one of the most important of recent years. It is on the second reading of the Supply Bill that the Unofficial members of the Council, as representing the general public or specific sections of it, have their opportunity of bringing forward local questions of importance and of expressing their opinions on the forthcoming or otherwise of the authorities. That opportunity was made full use of yesterday. There was general agreement that so far as finances are concerned Hongkong is in a happy position, and for that circumstance due credit was rightly given to those administering the affairs of the Colony. Those at the head of the Government certainly deserve the highest praise for their management of the Colony's finances during the past year and ever since the war began. But while satisfaction was expressed in this regard, criticism was wisely taken by the Unofficial members to offer constructive criticism—which is the only criticism possessing value—concerning many branches of Government activity. From this standpoint the speeches delivered were decidedly to the point, embracing, as they did, practically every issue in which public interest has been centred of late.

It is impossible to do justice to the numerous questions raised by treating them in a general way, and we shall therefore at the moment content ourselves with a few observations on the problem of the proper education of European children, a matter upon which we have frequently had occasion to comment. We were extremely glad that the Hon. Mr. Landale spoke so pointedly on this issue, for we regard it as one of the most important of our local problems. Many times have we said—and we repeat it to-day—that there are no really adequate facilities in Hongkong for the education of European children on modern lines. Mr. Landale very properly took up the matter from the standpoint of parents of European children who cannot afford to send their children to a cooler climate for their education, and who therefore have to rest content with such provision as is made locally, which is by no means of means sufficient to meet the case. The other day, in touching upon this matter, we advocated the establishment of a modern central school for European children. Mr. Landale now puts forward an alternative proposal by suggesting that a school at Wei-hai-wei, or at some such place where the climate is suitable for children, should be subsidised by the Government so that the fee charged would be the same as if the school were situated in Hongkong. He puts forward that idea in lieu of spending public money on an expensive school here, where the climate in summer is admittedly none too suitable for young people. The Hon. Mr. Holyoak also strongly supported the plea for better facilities for European children and strongly endorsed the views urged by Mr. Landale. As to the Government's attitude on the matter, we have His Excellency's assurance that the question shall receive careful consideration.

The chief value of the opinions expressed on this problem is to be found in the general recognition of the fact that matters cannot rest where they now are. Even the Government does not contest that point. It is, in fact, little short of an injustice to the European community that its educational needs have for so long been neglected. As to whether it would be wiser to adopt some such scheme as Mr. Landale suggests, or to provide a better class school locally, is, after all, largely a matter of detail. Many parents who are anxious for their children's welfare and fitness for after-life are quite unable to bear the financial strain of sending them home to be educated, besides which, even if that were made possible, it would involve long periods of undesirable separation. The proposal made by Mr. Landale overcomes both these difficulties, and for that reason it is a valuable contribution to the suggestions made for solving the problem. Our hope is—and we speak for many European parents—that the endorsement of ideas on this matter will soon lead to something practicable being done, for there are no two opinions as to either the urgency or the importance of the issues involved.

The City Beautiful.

It is gratifying to find that we have in the Hon. Mr. Bird, even though he will not long occupy his present seat at the Council Chamber, a member who has an appreciation of what we may term the City Beautiful. Two of the items mentioned by him in his intensely practical speech at yesterday's meeting of the Council demonstrated that fact. As he truly remarks, the lamp-posts which are supposed to adorn this Colony are not precisely things of beauty, and he puts forward a very happy suggestion when he urges that in the provision of new lamp-posts some regard to artistic effect should be had; while at the same time the street-names could be pleasingly worked into the design. We hope that the suggestion will bear fruit. His other proposal—and one of much more importance—is that occasion should be taken in connection with the Praya East reclamation scheme to require the building of houses of a uniform design on the sea-front. The existing front, whether we take east or west, is well described when its appearance is dubbed "ramshackle." Unhappily, no extensive improvements can be expected for some time on the western Praya, but there is certainly every reason why the opportunity should be seized to make the other end a trifle more pleasing to the eye. In the past there have been far too many ill-assorted, jerry built houses erected; in the western portion of the city a decent earthquake would serve a useful purpose provided the whole populace happened to be out on a day's holiday elsewhere. A town-planning enthusiast would succumb from injured feelings if he were dropped on to some localities in this Colony. Let us by all means contrive to improve the city's outward appearance. The proposed reclamation scheme opens up the way for a beginning to be made.

Storm Signals.

Among the many other questions raised at yesterday's Council meeting not the least important was that relating to the local storm signals. When these were adopted there was considerable criticism offered by shipping interests on the ground that the local Code was different from that in use along the China Coast. That state of affairs still prevails, and its awkwardness is easily realised. While we do not pose as experts on matters meteorological and are not particularly concerned with the nature of the dispute between the Hongkong Observatory and the Coast Inspector in Shanghai, we cannot help thinking that a heavy responsibility rests on those, whoever they may be, who are standing in the way of the adoption of a uniform Code. In the typhoon season especially it is essential that everything possible should be done to assist mariners, and nothing is more likely to lead to confusion than the existence of different sets of Codes. In view of the unanimity of opinion in shipping circles on the point we cannot understand why this matter is not satisfactorily adjusted.

"St. Transit."

Although the insistent rumours of the Kaiser's abdication may be without foundation, there is every indication in Germany that the days of Hohenzollern glory are numbered. A reliable report from the Hague states that recently there have been anti-dynastic demonstrations in Berlin, in which several famous Hohenzollern Statues in the Unter-den-Linden were smashed. Thousands of workers have struck work at Essen, and they paraded the town, singing revolutionary songs, insulting the Kaiser, General von Hindenburg, and General Ludendorff, and demanding peace. In all the great news of the last few days, we consider this the most significant. What a revolution in the tenets of the German Empire when its God-like Kaiser, the All-Highest, can be insulted with impunity by his erstwhile devoted subjects! "So have the mighty fallen." The German people are at last seeing the truth, and their autocratic leaders are hastening to their doom. A terrible blow has been struck at Prussianism from which it can never recover.

DAY BY DAY.

TO KEEP PEACE AND CONCORD WITH OTHERS WE LEARN TO RENOUNCE OUR WILL IN MANY THINGS.

To-morrow's Anniversary.
To-morrow is the anniversary of the Battle of Leipzig (1813).

[The Dollar.

The opening rate of the dollar on demand to-day was \$s. 3. 15/16d.

Committed for Trial.

Wu Wai-Cheng, who was charged with fatally stabbing Li Hing at Third Street, West Point, on September 25, has been committed for trial at the Criminal Sessions.

Kailan Output.

The total output of the Kailan Mining Administration's mines for the week ending October 5 amounted to 51,575 tons and the sales during the period to 44,650 tons.

The Rose Fund.

Subscriptions to Lady May's Rose Fund should be addressed Government House. The fund will be open for a few more days and it is hoped those wishing to subscribe will do so at once. Each subscriber will be sent a special rose.

"The Stunts."

The public will be interested to learn that in connection with "Our Day" that talented little body of Portuguese entertainers, "The Stunts," will appear at the Victoria Theatre on Tuesday next, when they will present the amazing farce "My Lord in Livery," as well as providing some musical medley features. Tickets can be obtained at the Anderson Music Company's store.

Whist Drive.

The fortnightly whist drive of the Naval Yard Recreation Club took place last evening on the verandah of the Officers. There was a good attendance and the results were as follows:—Ladies:—1st, Miss Goodall; 2nd, Mrs. Duffield; 3rd, Mrs. Pile. Gentlemen:—1st, Mr. Danbert; 2nd, Mr. Jones; 3rd, Mr. Small; 4th, Mr. Wilson. The next drive is on the 30th inst, and the Club opens its dancing season on Saturday, 2nd November, at the R. N. Canton.

Victoria Theatre.

There was a large audience at the Victoria Theatre last night to see the 11th and 12th episodes of the "Hidden Hand," that sensational serial film which has received such a good reception in Hongkong. From previous episodes it has been seen that there is not a dull moment in this wonderful production, and these last two parts, which are being shown to-night and to-morrow night, are every bit as full of life and gripping situations as those that have gone before. In addition to this, the management has added to the programme a British Gazette and an American Gazette, both films being of considerable topical interest and form a great part of the entertainment. To round off a really splendid programme there is a very funny picture entitled "Judy's Rival." This film will send any audience home in a good humour and it is safe to say that there won't be any empty seats at the Victoria during these nights.

An Exciting Harbour Chase.
A Chinese woman and a man were charged at the Police Court this morning, before Mr. J. R. Wood, with stealing two iron beams from the Douglas S.S. Co.'s wharf. Inspector P. O'Sullivan prosecuted and Mr. E. J. Grist appeared for the defendants. In relating the facts of the case, Inspector O'Sullivan said that on the day in question an Indian watchman employed at the wharf was standing on Blake Pier when he noticed two sampans on the Douglas Wharf, at about 12 p.m. He ran to the wharf and saw the defendants breaking one of the beams. He blew his whistle and the sampans went away. They were chased by Thomas Cook and Co.'s launch and it appeared the iron beam was dumped into the sea. After chasing the sampans half way across the Harbour, the defendants were arrested. Mr. Grist applied for a short remand, as he had not the necessary fact of the case. His Worship remanded the case till Monday at 2.15 p.m., bail being allowed at \$150 each.

ROBBIE'S LETTERS: VII.

To His Nephew in France.

Hongkong, Oct. 16, 1918.

Dear Alick,

..... Aye, great news lad. Kocher Kaiser is the fashionable grant in the German beer garden at the minute. But I never was one that counted the rabbit's ears they were snared and as I said to one of my young men last Monday when he was busy cleaning the rust off his volunteer gear preparatory to shoving it into store, says I, "Hold on, my lad, this peace and democracy talk has settled too quickly in the thick part at the back of yer ear. Give it time to spread a bit. Besides, Willie's got to look out for a home yet before he's finished changing his mind, and ye'll have all this cleaning for nothing." Myself I don't like folks that's always looking for the nigger in the wood pile, but all the same I'm right glad that President Wilson has intimated that before he can even think of peace Heine has to recite the Declaration of Independence a few times and be able to sing the "Star Spangled Banner" and see that he gets the words right. All the same, last Sunday's news came as a great shock—to the Civil Servants here who are fixed up to get a war bonus and who, in a manner of speaking, saw their prospective War Bonds vanish in thin air. But Brits will come again before long; he's sure to have the last word anyhow—"Kamerad!"—and then we can start to celebrate a bit. I've often wondered if the Government here, after four years of war, will ever be able to smile officially without running the risk of cracking its face when peace is finally declared. As you know, there have been one or two attempts to get up a bit celebration in the past on the anniversary of the beginning of war but for some reason or other this has always been frowned on and most properly discouraged. Between Willie's seconds throw the sponge into the ring, our thoughts will naturally turn to the medals we're to get wif' bars for the German Camp and other places, and it's more than likely that there'll be a holiday and a grand review at Happy Valley, followed by a speech from His Excellency, reminding us once again what a fine body of men we are and how we helped to save the Empire by buying War Bonds tickets and drinking light wines. "Aye, lad, peace will bring its changes. Hamburg steak will once more appear on our menus, and we will be able to go moonlight picnics without getting a hole punched in the funnel of the launch. Second-hand knitting machines will be as cheap as dirt, and there'll be a fair slump in drill instructions. But, on the other hand, some things will stick despite the wars of democracy that's set out to sweep round the world. Hongkong's only a backwash, anyway. . . .

I see that the "Our Day" celebrations on the 24th are going to be on a big scale this year. After the selling of roses in the morning there's to be a Gymkhana and Side Shows at Happy Valley in the afternoon. From what I hear, it's going to be a grand time. The Joy-Wheel's to be there, the same as on St. Andrew's Fair Day last year. I don't know if ye ever seen the like, but ye take my word for it, it's the grandest thing for shaking the money out of yer pocket that was ever invented and it's even worth good money to see the performance, for the lingerie and leg display, m'kee a French dressmaker's advertisement look quite tame beside it. Then there's to be the "Owlie," guaranteed to sweep away the fundamentals of all trouble, and I'm told, the one that breaks through the "Hindenburg Line," storms the "Pill Box" and shoots all the animals in the "Duck Pond" to smithereens, is to be excused from the Volunteer Camp this year. Then there's the Rose as well, but my money's on the Haman & Co. every time. It's a come up to scratch and it's sure to prove a winner anyway, and pay handsomely for its entry. At night there's to be a ball being allowed at \$150 each.

Yours truly,
ROBT. McWHITER.

Gardens, wif' Bonds, Chinese.

Confusions, Japanese, fireworks, and the Portuguese. Still eye ready and willing to send ye home wif' your pockets filled wif' raffish tickets. Janet says if I win the Dodge motor car that's to be raffled for it's to be sold on the spot for we've no room for it and she's not going to shift house again for no motor car. I said we might do worse than keep it, for it's getting quite fashionable nowadays to go to the church in one of them. Anyway, as I said to Janet, I'm just about as sure o' getting that Dodge car as she is o' getting home next year, and that finished the argument. But as I was saying, "Our Day's" going to be a great success, always provided of course, that we get good weather and our pay on the 23rd of the month. Macpherson—but what's the use of troubling you about what he said? He's all right in his way, of course, but a man that knows what he's talking about is liable not to be as interesting as one that doesn't bother about the facts so long as he keeps you entertained. As I said to Macpherson once, that's metaphysics anyway. "How?" says he, thinking I was swearing at him in a genteel kind of way. "Well," said I, "it's like this. When the party who listens doesn't know what the party who speaks means, and when the party who speaks doesn't know what he means himself—that's metaphysics. Mac to this day doesn't know whether that was just skilled conversation or plain foolishness on my part, but mind ye I'm no' saying but what he has his suspicions. . . .

Janet says I just fair blather on instead of telling you all the news. As I've said often enough before, a woman has her limitations. Janet's idea of news, if I can gather rightly from her conversation—the past few nights, is that Maizon Lily has got back wif' a shipload o' new frocks; that Macpherson's dog has also got a new consignment o' pups that would make your head fair ache to guess the breed of the father; that the Government's new insurance scheme has upset some of the Kowloon ladies worse than ever—and rightly too; it's a downright shame—and that it looks like as if a chap would have to go to the Government Analyst and have his feelings analyzed before getting married in future; that Archie Logan is a handsome-looking boy, which is neither here nor there so long as he can swim the harbour quicker than anyone else; that Macpherson's wife is making a sealskin hat out of her last year's furs; and that the Scots ladies of the Colony have been in session and that the Fair's to be a bigger success than ever and that the scene, jelly and pin-cushion making season has started in real earnest. Now you got the whole story excepting that the Dock had its last bathing picnic on Sunday, that it was a fine day and the Chief Engineer of the boat was a very affable man.

Seriously though, the Harbour Swim this year was a good race. As I said before, young Logan won it wif' a margin to spare and Lyon's boy was second. That boy's the coming champion of the Colony and has a heart as big as an orange box. And only a boy too. Of course the tide was a bit too strong for the wee chap and he was drifted a bit, but he was the game one, for after nearly swimming round the Naval Dock didn't he get into slack water and strike out, and to everyone's surprise, stuck his head round the corner of the V.R.O. and elbowed in second? Aye a fine boy, mind I'm telling ya. . . .

Yours truly,
ROBT. McWHITER.

Cinema Attraction.

Those who saw Mr. Thersess and Mesdames Sanoor and Gordon at the Victoria Theatre will be interested to learn that this talented little trio has arranged to appear at the Bija Theatre on Saturday and Sunday, giving two performances on each occasion—at 7.15 and 9.15 p.m. These will be their farewell performances. A long programme containing many novelties never seen in Hongkong will be provided, and a specialty will be the famous Vampire Dance.

TO-DAY'S MISCELLANY.

The role exemption of the wedding-ring from the luxury tax on Jewellery falls in with the early rules of the Methodist Church, which forbade the wearing of all gold, jewels, or costly apparel with the exception of the marriage-ring. John Wesley, however, knew when to overlook breaches of his own regulations. During a pastoral visit one of his preachers drew Wesley's attention to the jewelled ring worn by the daughter of the house. Wesley only remarked gently, "A very beautiful hand."

The Bigdad-Baku Expedition must have taken the British soldier on the strangest of the many queer journeys he has made in this war. At one point the force would come on a macabre link with its fellow on the distant Euphrates. Mr. Chandler has told of the wonder of the British soldier on duty near the sacred shrine of Nabela at the arrival across the desert of coffins on camel-back from Stambul, Samarkand, and other remote spots where the Shi-ite branch of the Mohammedan faith has its devotees. The dead are sent on this last long pilgrimage in order that they may be near the Prophet's son-in-law, Hussein, on the Day of Resurrection. Near Kassin our troops would cross the main track from Northern Persia to far Nabela, down which the pilgrims, quick and dead, make their perilous way.

A Belfast woman has evolved a wool-saving device which, though at present applied only to hosiery, suggests possibilities for other garments. There has been hitherto a great waste of wool in worn out socks, particularly in the army. Usually the upper part of the sock is still in good condition when the foot part is quite worn out. This new device consists of knitting the foot and leg part separately. The bottom hem of the leg section is finished off with two loose ends of wool, one three inches and the other about 12 inches in length. The top hem of the foot section is finished off with small loops, through which the longer loose end of wool is threaded and tied to the shorter end. The joint is strong and smooth both outside and inside, and hardly noticeable. Either hand or machine made hosiery of any material can be treated in the same way. Of course the idea of attaching new feet to old socks is not new, but usually the feet are not, making an unsightly joint that chafes the ankles.

It is rather surprising that one has not yet seen a magazine article on "The Doll in Wartime," for the war has hit the doll kind very hard. The race has sadly declined both in numbers and looks. It will be a long time—if ever—before we see again the idle beauties who were the delight of little girls in pre-war days. The doll least touched by the war is the baby-doll, who has not yet become engaged in patriotic work. But whether the busy professional creatures in their workmanlike uniforms, arrayed in the toyshop windows, for grown-ups to buy at high prices for children, really appeal to the children themselves is a doubtful matter. Surely no nice-minded child—even for the sake of displaying a little temporary power—could sleep a little Red Cross nurse or shake a soldier-boy in hospital blue, or would put a brown land-girl to bed in her khaki hat, leggings, and yodel boots—if they did not "come off." Costume dolls were, in Catherine de Medici's time and later, used to display the Paris fashion, two dolls (about half life size) being dressed in the newest styles—one an elaborate figure, the other in deahabile, and replicas of the pair, the Grande and Petite Bandore, were sent to the other European capitals as fashion models. These fashion puppets, sent out four times a year, were in time of war specially exempted from customs regulations, and the Grande Poupée had her special war-time passport, though all ships were bombarded that did not contain such precious persons. The country's interest in the doll was not, however, confined to the doll.

HONGKONG DEFENCE CORPS.

Administrative Orders by Major H. A. Morgan, Administrative Commandant, state:—

Strength.

No. 993 Pte. J. W. Taylor was enrolled on 11.10.18 and posted to Mounted Sec. The Commandant records with deep regret the death of No. 902 Pte. H. L. Harron (in the sinking of the "Hirano Maru"), No. 194 Spr. A. F. McIntosh and No. 858 Spr. J. F. Allen, Engineer Company, are permitted to resign, on leaving the Colony, to date from day of departure. No. 713 Pte. J. A. Bullen, M. Gun Company, is permitted to resign, on leaving the Colony, to date from day of departure.

Leave.

Pte. E. E. J. Adams, "B" Company, is granted 6 weeks' leave, on business, from 14.10.18.

Artillery Company.

Additional men are required from the Infantry Battalion for the Artillery Company. Names of men willing to transfer should be sent through unit Commanders to the Adjutant as soon as possible.

Artillery Orders.

Orders for Artillery Company by Captain J. H. W. Armstrong, V.D. state:—

Parades at Belchers Battery:—Monday, 21st October.—5.15 p.m. Left Half Coy. Fall drill.

Tuesday, 22nd October.—7.30 a.m. Right Half Company, New Layers' Class only.

Friday, 25th October.—7.30 a.m. Right Half Company, Fall drill. 5.15 p.m. Left Half Coy. New Layers' Class only.

Engineer Orders.

Orders for Engineer Company by Captain W. Russell state:—18th to 25th October, 1918.

D.E.L. duties.—Parades as per rosters posted at Headquarters. On and from 19th instant Engine Drivers at 5.30 p.m. Electricians at 5.45 p.m.

Officers next for duty.—Belchers, Captain Russell, Lyemum, 2nd Lieut. Templeton. Stonecutters, 2nd Lieut. Blackburn.

Instruction for higher ratings and N.C.O.s and men of the Infantry Battalion attached for duty.—Class 1, at Belchers at 6.30 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays for all who have not passed the "Proficient" rate (H/-) examination. Class 2, at Belchers at 6.30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays for all N.C.O.s and men of higher ratings, under Staff Sergeants, Owendene and Parsons, R.E., and Sergt. Day, H.K.D.C.

Class 3, at Lyemum at 6.30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays, under Q.M.S. White and Staff Sergt. Barclay, R.E.

Detail of duties at Lyemum from 17th to 31st Oct. inclusive is posted at Headquarters for information of all concerned.

Notice.—September pay and travelling expenses will be issued at Engineer Office, Headquarters, H. K. D. O. for all except Taikoo residents on Saturday the 19th instant between 10 a.m. and 12 noon and on Monday the 21st at the same time and place.

Infantry Orders.

Orders for Infantry Battalion by Major H. A. Morgan state:—

Annual Musketry Course, Peak Range.—The following will attend on the dates named:—

Monday, 21st October, Part 1 Practices 3 and 4.—5.30 a.m.

Loc. Corpl. A. O. Lang, Ptes. C. H. P. Hay, T. E. Pearce, A. G. M. Fletcher, G. F. Nightingale ("B" Coy), Loc. Corpl. E. Davidson and Pte. G. B. Dunnett (M. Gun Coy).

Tuesday, 22nd Oct. Part 1 Practices 3 and 4.—5.30 a.m. Sergt. G. Morton Smith, Ptes. E. P. Thursfield, E. Howard, J. W. Taylor (Mounted Section), Sergt. Mitchelmore (Sig. Sec.) and any others who wish to fire these practices at the Peak Range.

Friday, 26th Oct. Part 2, Practices 5, 6, 7 and 12.—6.30 a.m. Ptes. A. Morris ("A" Coy), Loc. Corpl. A. O. Lang, Ptes. E. Graham, E. B. Hallifax, G. W. O. Barnett, S. H. Dodwell, C. H. P. Hay and A. G. M. Fletcher ("B" Coy).

Saturday, 28th October, Part 2, Practices 5, 6, 7 and 12.—8.30 a.m. Ptes. T. E. Pearce, G. F. Nightingale ("B" Coy), Loc. Corpl. E. Davidson, Pte. G. B. Dunnett (M. Gun Coy), Sergt. G.

Morton Smith, Ptes. E. P. Thursfield, E. Howard, J. W. Taylor (Mounted Section), Sergt. Mitchelmore (Sig. Sec.) and any others who wish to fire these practices at the Peak Range.

"A" COMPANY.

Monday, 21st Oct.—4.45 p.m. No. 3 Platoon at King's Park Range. Annual Musketry Course, Part 3, Practices 17 and 18. Dress, Drill order with pouches.

Tuesday, 22nd Oct.—5.30 p.m. No. 2 Platoon on Polo Ground, Fall in at Cricket Club at 5.10 p.m. and proceed by tram to Causeway Bay. Fire Discipline training. Dress, Drill order with pouches (No dummies).

Friday, 25th Oct.—5.30 p.m. No. 1 Platoon on Murray Parade Ground. Squad Drill, Dress, Drill order.

"B" COMPANY.

Tuesday, 22nd Oct.—5.15 p.m. No. 7 Platoon at Headquarters. Quarry Bay men will parade at 5.30 p.m. Dress, Drill order with rifles. No pouches or sidearms.

No. 8 Platoon (N.C.O.s and men as detailed by Platoon Commander) at Kowloon Docks. T.E.T.

Wednesday, 23rd Oct.—4.45 p.m. No. 5 Platoon; Nos. 3 and 4 Sections, at King's Park Range. Annual Musketry Course, Part 1, Practices 3 and 4. Dress, Drill order with pouches.

Friday, 25th Oct.—4.45 p.m. No. 6 Platoon Nos. 5 and 6 Sections, at King's Park Range. Annual Musketry Course, Part 1, Practices 1 and 2. Dress, Drill order with pouches.

MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

Monday, 21st Oct.—4.45 p.m. No. 1 Gun Team at King's Park Range. Annual Musketry Course, Part 3, Practices 17 and 18. Dress, Drill order with pouches.

Friday, 25th Oct.—7.10 a.m. Beginners' Class at Headquarters. MOUNTED SECTION.

Monday, 21st Oct.—5.30 p.m. At Jockey Club Stables Dress, Drill order.

Friday, 25th Oct.—5.30 p.m. At Jockey Club Stables, Dress, Drill order without rifles.

SIGNALLING SECTION.

Tuesday, 22nd Oct.—4.45 p.m. At King's Park Range. Annual Musketry Course, Part 1, Practices 1 and 2. Dress, Drill order with pouches.

"D" COMPANY.

Monday, 21st Oct.—5.30 p.m. Nos. 1 and 2 Sections on Murray Parade Ground, Squad Drill, Dress, Drill order.

Friday, 25th Oct.—5.30 p.m. 3 and 4 Sections on Murray Parade Ground. Squad Drill, Dress, Drill order.

RECRUITS.

Monday, 21st and Friday, 25th Oct.—5.30 p.m. Recruits of all units, except "D" Company, on Murray Parade Ground, under Sergts. Oxberry (Monday) and Edmonds (Friday). Dress, Drill order.

Cadet Orders.

Orders for Cadet Company by 2nd Lieut. J. E. W. Beard state:—

Monday, 21st October.—5.15 p.m. Nos. 1 and 2 Sections at Headquarters. 5.15 p.m. Band at Headquarters.

Wednesday, 23rd October.—5.15 p.m. Nos. 3 and 4 Sections at Yauwatti Football. 5.15 p.m. Band at Headquarters.

LITTLE BODIES AND BIG PAINS.

Teething Without Tears Through Baby's Own Tablets.

The misery and pain that many babies suffer through teething time is expressed eloquently enough in fits of pitiful crying, fever, refusal of food, and diarrhoea—or perhaps constipation.

Baby's Own Tablets—guaranteed to contain no opiates and to be perfectly harmless—act like magic, relieve pain, comfort baby and give rest to the mother, while teething progresses without tears.

Baby's Own Tablets, the Canadian children's remedy, are safe and pleasant for the youngest infant and the growing child. Besides being so helpful during the teething period they remove constipation, allay feverishness, cure colic, indigestion and worms.

Obtainable from chemists, also at 60 cents the vial, post free from the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., 98 Bebban Road, Shanghai.

DUMPING.

Disposing of a Child's Body.

Two Chinese were charged at the Police Court this morning, before Mr. E. J. O. Wolfe, with removing the body of a dead child and attempting to dump it on the foreshore, without a certificate of death or an order for its burial, at Shaokwan. Sergt. Moss prosecuted.

The defendants stated that they were carrying the body of the dead child near the foreshore. One of them intended to go to the Chinese Dispensary in the neighbourhood, whilst the other was deputed to keep watch over it.

An Indian constable said that he and another constable had seen the defendants with the dead body on the rocks near the sea front. When the defendants saw them they ran away in the opposite direction, but were caught and brought to the Station.

His Worship said that from the evidence given he was satisfied that the defendants did try to dump the body on the foreshore to save trouble. He found the second defendant was not guilty, as he was used as an instrument and would therefore discharge him, whilst the other defendant would be fined \$10.

A Gaming House.

For keeping a gaming house a Chinese was fined \$190, or three months' hard labour to-day at the Police Court. Ten others were fined \$3 each, or six days' hard labour, and two others were fined \$2. Inspector MacDonald, who prosecuted, applied for the confiscation of \$12.27 found on the table and \$14.14 found on the first defendant. This was granted.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

HARMSTON'S CIRCUS

WILL OPEN, ON OR ABOUT MONDAY, October 21.

AT

KOWLOON

near the Post Office

Full programme will be advertised later.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

a.s. "VOLUNTEER"

From SAN FRANCISCO, YOKOHAMA & SHANGHAI.

The above mentioned vessel having arrived from the above-mentioned ports, Consignees of cargo are hereby informed that their cargo will be landed at their risk into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godown of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co., Ltd., Kowloon, and stored at Consignees' risk.

Consignees of cargo are hereby notified that they must produce an Import Permit signed by the Superintendent of Imports & Exports, Hongkong, before Bills of Lading can be countersigned. All broken, chafed and damaged goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on Tuesday, the 22nd, at 10 a.m.

All claims must be presented within a month of the steamer's arrival here, after which they cannot be recognized.

No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the Godowns and all goods remaining undelivered after the 24th October, 1918, will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance whatever will be effected.

Consignees are requested to send in their Bills of Lading for countersignature immediately.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

J. ORAM SHEPPARD,

Acting Agent.

Hongkong, 17th October, 1918.

DAIRY FARM NEWS.

There is no substitute for any Dairy Product

FRESH MILK

is both Food and Drink.

Children must have it—adults should have it

FRESH CREAM

is concentrated food.

TO-DAY'S NEW ADVERTISEMENT

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COLLARS & SHIRTS.

LOOK WELL.

WEAR WELL.

AND ARE

WELL MADE

TRADE MARK
CLUETT REAPBODY & CO.

OUR+DAY FUND

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22ND 1918.

Mr. P. A. Rosario presents

THE STUNTS

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"MY LORD IN LIVERY"

and

MUSICAL MEDLEY

at

THE VICTORIA THEATRE

Booking at the ANDERSON MUSIC Co., Ltd.

GYMKHANA CLUB SWEEP

ON

"OUR DAY DERBY"

to be run on 24th OCTOBER.

25% of the total amount will be given without deduction for expenses to the "OUR DAY RED CROSS FUND," and the remainder will be divided as follows:—

70% TO THE WINNER.

20% TO THE SECOND.

10% TO THE THIRD.

The drawing will take place at the HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB rooms (Chater Road) at 5.30 P.M. on WEDNESDAY, 23rd October. Subscribers are invited to the present.

The names of the drawers of ponies and particulars of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd, prizes will be published in the morning papers of 24th October.

Pack up your troubles in your old kit bag And Advertise. You do not wish behind the times to lag.

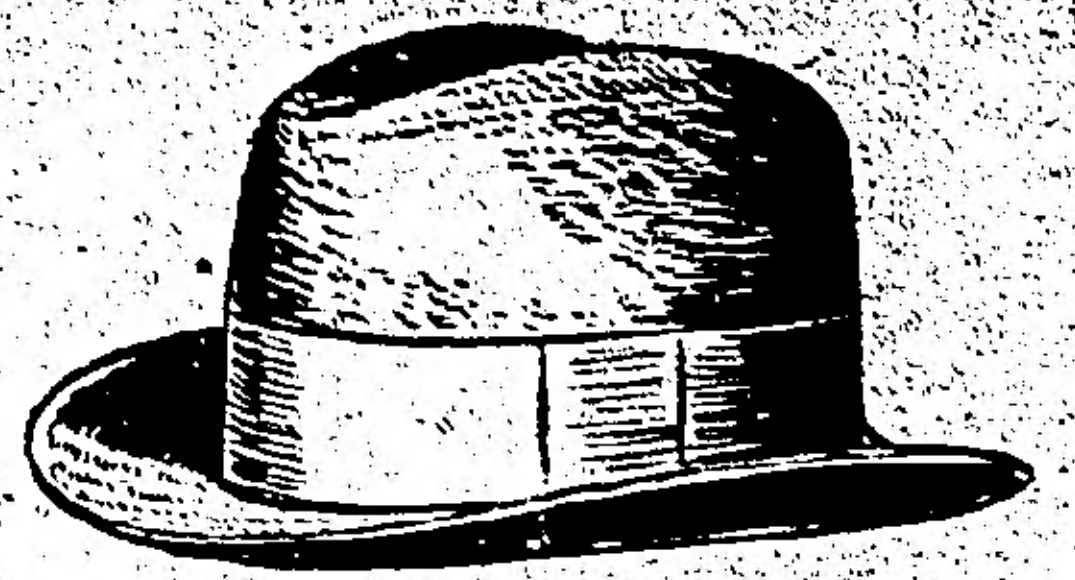
T would be most unwise What's the use of worrying Let no one you despise Pack up your troubles in your old kit bag And Advertise.

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Destination.	Steamer & Displacement.	Sailing Dates.
SHANGHAI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	*Kaga Maru T. 12,300 *Yokohama Maru T. 12,340	[SATUR., 2nd Nov., at 11 a.m. [SATUR., 16th Nov., at 11 a.m. [SATUR., 19th Oct., at noon.
NAGASAKI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	*Aki Maru T. 12,300 *Nikko Maru T. 9,600	[SATUR., 14th Dec., at 11 a.m. [WEDNESDAY, 23rd Oct.
SHANGHAI, MOJI & KOBE	*Yokohama Maru T. 7,000 *Yokohama Maru T. 8,800 *Kosoku Maru T. 7,000	[SATURDAY, 26th Oct. [TUESDAY, 29th Oct.

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PORE, PENANG, COLOMBO,
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Next sailings from Hongkong.*Katori Maru SUN, 20th Oct., at 11 a.m.
*Suwa Maru THURS., 14th Nov., at 11 a.m.

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For date of sailing apply
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KOREA MARU	20,000	2nd Nov.
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TERO MARU	22,000	25th Nov.
SHINYO MARU	22,000	18th Dec.

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HONGKONG-TO VALPARAISO VIA JAPAN, HONOLULU,
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BALBOA, CALLAO, ARICA AND IQUIQUE.

THENCE BY TRANS ANDERSON ROUTE TO BUENOS AIRES.

Steamers.	Tons.	Leave Hongkong.
NIPPON MARU	11,000	8th November.
KIYO MARU	17,200	9th January.

Steamers are interchangeable with the Canadian Pacific Ocean Services, Ltd. and the Pacific
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Passengers may travel by rail between ports of call in Japan free of charge.
For full information as to rates, sailings, etc., apply toT. DAICO, Manager,
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Monthly Service between

NETH. INDIA, MANILA, HONGKONG & SAN FRANCISCO.
Next Sailing from HONGKONG TO JAVA.

S.S. "TJISALAK" on the 19th October, at noon.

The steamers are all fitted throughout with electric light
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Cargo taken on through Bills of Lading to all Overland
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Hongkong, Jan. 2, 1917.

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For	Steamers	To Sail
SHANGHAI	Yingchow	19th Oct. at 3 p.m.
SHANGHAI	Sinkiang	22nd Oct. at 1 p.m.
SHANGHAI	Suiyang	24th Oct. at 1 p.m.

SHANGHAI LINE.—PASSENGERS, MAILS AND CARGO.
Excellent Saloon accommodation. Amidships; Electric Light and
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Regular Fortnightly Service between

CHINA and JAPAN.

Steamer	From	Expected on or about	Will leave on or about	To
Tjilatjap	Kobe & Moji	6th Nov.	9th Nov.	Macassar
Tjipanas	Tjilatjap	11th Nov.	16th Nov.	Saigon
Nias	Java	12th Nov.	—	—

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FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND ROOCHOW AND RETURN.

Steamships.	Captain	Leaving.
Haihong	J. W. Evans	TUES., 22nd Oct. at 1 p.m.
Haitan	A. E. Hodgkins	FRI., 25th Oct. at 1 p.m.

FOR SWATOW.

Arrivals and Departures from the Company's Wharf (near
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(Projected Sailings from Hongkong.—Subject to Alteration.)

For	Steamship	On
MANILA	Tungshing	Mon., 21st Oct. at 3 p.m.
HAIPHONG	Taksang	Tues., 22nd Oct. at 8 a.m.
SHANGHAI	Wosang	Wed., 23rd Oct. at d'light.
MANILA	Yuensang	Fri., 25th Oct. at 3 p.m.
SANDAKAN	Mausang	Sat., 26th Oct. at noon.

CALCUTTA LINE.—This line is temporarily discontinued owing to the war, but at present a monthly
service is maintained with the s.s. "KWAISANG" and "YIM" calling at
Singapore and Penang. The former vessel has excellent passenger accommodation, is fitted
with electric light and fans, and carries a fully qualified surgeon.SINGAPORE LINE.—The s.s. "YUAN WAIKING" leaves for Singapore approximately every
fortnight. This vessel has excellent accommodation for first class passengers, and is fitted
throughout with electric light and fans and also carries a fully qualified surgeon.SHANGHAI LINE.—Sailings approximately every five days between Canton and Shanghai, sometimes
calling at Amoy. Steamers on this line have a limited amount of passenger accommo-
dation, and through tickets can be obtained for Northern and Yangtze Ports via Shanghai.
Through bills of lading are issued to all Northern and Yangtze Ports.MANILA LINE.—A weekly service is maintained with Manila by vessels with good passenger accom-
modation, sailing from both ports every Friday.HAIPHONG LINE.—Sailings approximately weekly for passengers and cargo, calling at Amoy when
indicated.BORNEO LINE.—One sailing per month between Hongkong and Sandakan by a steamer having appro-
priate accommodation for passengers.Cargo taken on through Bills of Lading for Kades, Jesselton, Labuan, Taiwan and Lahad Dairi,
calling at Weibei and Chiochi.

Under Straits Government Passport Regulations.

All European Passengers, leaving the Colony for Straits Settle-
ments, are required to produce on arrival at destination passports
with their Photographs and description affixed thereto.

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SHIPPING NEWS.

Argentina's Shipping Troubles.

Now that shipowners in the
Argentina have got rid of most of
their ocean-going steamers they
are, it is stated, experiencing
considerable difficulty in replac-
ing the lost tonnage, which, there
is reason to believe, was sold in
consequence of the fancy prices
offered. As they are asked to
pay as high, if not higher, prices
one can imagine the difficulty
with which they are faced. The
Argentine Minister in Paris has
gone to Spain to buy vessels
which are known to be for dis-
posal there, but the offer of
Swedish tonnage, it is understood,
has been rejected, as a result of
the record rates demanded per
ton. Meanwhile, the export and
import trades of the country are
suffering disastrously, and are,
in fact, almost at a standstill. It
is, in the circumstances, unfor-
tunate that the Government did
not prohibit the sale of vessels
on the national register.

1,000-Ton Concrete Barge.

The 1,000 ton concrete barge
which was launched recently
at the New Lake Shipyard,
Poole Harbour, was the first
large ferro-concrete sea-going
barge to be launched (as distinct
from floated) in this country.
Her principal measurements are:
—Length between perpendiculars,
190ft.; beam at loadline,
33ft.; moulded depth, 15ft. 6in.;
draught when loaded, 12ft. She
is the first of about 160 that are
to be built on the same model,
which is practically that of
straight line fabricated ship. The
others will be slightly less in
length, 17ft. to 180ft., but in
other respects just the same.
They are "dumb" barges, i.e.,
for towing only. The only exposed
piece of metal in these craft is the
rudder. Concrete is used for
everything as far as possible, in-
cluding the deckhouses, entrances
to cabins, and the bulwarks.
Mercantile Marine Prisoners
of War.

The Imperial Merchant Service

Guild has been favoured with a
copy of a letter from the Board
of Trade which is being sent to
shipowners concerned respecting
the payment out of public funds
of expenses in connection with
the internment in an officer camp
of Mercantile Marine officers
who are prisoners of war in
Germany. His Majesty's Treas-
ury have now decided to accept
these payments as a charge on
public funds, and, as previously
announced, it has also been
arranged to defray the cost of
internment (board and sub-
sistence) of both officers and men
who had been released to a
neutral country as well as the
cost of the conveyance home of
all officers and men of the
Mercantile Marine who had been
captured and interned by the
enemy. The Board of Trade also
take this opportunity of stating
that from time to time
their attention has been
drawn to the unfortunate
position of some of the officers
and seamen of the Mercantile
Marine after release from enemy
countries owing to the fact that
some owners have ceased to pay
wages or pay any portion of
wages during their internment,
and made no monetary allowance
to the officer or seaman. The
Board now suggest to these
owners that in view of the
decision of the Government, as
stated above, they hope that the
owners will now make some payment
to officers and men who were
taken prisoner by the enemy in
view of the fact that it has been
laid down by law that their earn-
ing power is non-existent during
internment.

New Zealand's Co-operative

Shipping.

The following is an excerpt
from a letter which has been sent
to members by the manager of
the New Zealand Co-operative
Association, of Canterbury:
"Efforts are being made all over
the British Empire to introduce
co-operative trading, and in this
connection particular stress is
now being laid upon a movement
at federation. Among other
things, it is intended to organise
a shipping company in the
Dominion on co-operative lines,
so as to protect producers against
shipping combines. This tendency
is becoming very pronounced in
the New Zealand trade, and I am
of opinion that the time was
never more opportune for the
introduction of such a scheme
as I have suggested. I do not
propose the buying or building of
vessels at present, but I think
the chances of flotation and
engineering details were never
better. I believe that the project
is now before the Government,
which is being urged to take
action by way of financial
assistance in the matter."

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

THE BATTLES IN THE WEST.

Rapid Advance in Flanders.

London, Oct. 15.
Beuter's correspondent at Headquarters, writing on October 16, says: We are following up rapidly the success in Flanders. Indeed it is difficult to set any limits to the Allied advance. Cavalry are reported towards Thourout but may be only reconnoitring bodies. Certainly the infantry have reached a point near Lichtervelde and along the northern outskirts of Courtrai. We across the Lys east of Comines with posts beyond Habasserville. The weather is fine and misty.

We have reached the proximity of the enemy's chief lateral railway from Thourout, via Thiel to Ghent. Consequently the Germans have been thrown back upon the railway to Ostend, Bruges, Ghent, Brussels for lateral communications, which is awkward owing to the nearness of the Dutch frontier. Prisoners have reached 10,000. The enemy's Lys line, north-east of Lille is becoming most critical and an early withdrawal therefrom is anticipated.

German Officers as Thieves.

London, Oct. 16.
On the Flanders front numerous German prisoners were found carrying property looted from Roulers and elsewhere. They declared that they acted on the orders of their officers, whom they named: Five of the latter who were prisoners at Roulers was thereupon arrested and handcuffed. They demanded an interview with the Corps Commander, but the latter refused to receive them saying he could have no relations with thieves. The arrested officers will be court-martialed. Everywhere before the victorious Allied advance the Germans have removed civilians from Belgian villages which they then stripped bare.—Havas.

British Capture Menin.

London, Oct. 15.
The following reports are by Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig: We crossed Hautecluse Canal on both sides of Pont Avenin and captured Estrevelles, Menchin and Bauvin. Further north we progressed in the neighbourhood of Hautecluse.

Beuter learns that the British have captured Menin. The Allies have advanced a mile on the whole Flanders front, capturing most important ground. They have reached within a mile of the Courtrai-Thourout railway. South-west of Lille the Germans are retiring upon Hautecluse Canal. We occupied Sante south-west of Lille.

Twelve Thousand Prisoners.

London, Oct. 16.
Patrols slightly progressed during the night in the Douai and Lille sector. The Allied forces under the King of the Belgians continued the attack. The Belgians reached the approaches to Wyndendale Wood and Thourout. The French reached the outskirts of Lichtervelde. Further south, despite lively resistance, they pushed beyond the Roulers-Lichtervelde railway. Southward of the canal the Belgians captured Lendelede. The Second British Army reached Lecan and captured Galleghem and Houle. They reached the outskirts of Courtrai, and occupied Menin and Wervicq, where they gained a footing on the right bank of the Lys. Since the 14th inst. the Allies have prisoner 12,000 and captured over a hundred guns. Fine weather enabled the greatest activity all day. Our bombers caused great damage at rail-stations and junctions in the rear of the enemy's line, obtaining many direct hits and starting numerous fires in railheads. The total of bombs dropped was 33 tons. German aeroplanes were very active on the northern battle-front, where heavy fighting ensued. We destroyed thirty hostile machines and drove down six uncontrollable in addition to two shot down from the ground. Eleven British are missing. Our night-divers continued to attack rail-junctions with good effect and dropped over 15 tons.

The Allied Drive.

London, Oct. 16.
Beuter's correspondent at British Headquarters, writing on the evening of Oct. 15, says: Since Sunday morning eight German divisions have been flung back broken, whilst probably all or most of the reserve divisions behind them have a heavy grueling. This has not been a battle of limited objectives but rather it has been a drive. The French light tanks have done extraordinarily good service. The Germans anticipated employment of tanks, cavalry and armoured-cars in the event of the Allies breaking through for all the roadside trees were felled and laid across the path and every canal crossing destroyed. Despite the weather the Allies have advanced amazingly well since this morning, though fighting was obstinate in places. The prisoners are expected to largely exceed 11,000 which was the total this morning and the guns a hundred. Roulers was found undamaged and 1,300 inhabitants were liberated. Between Lens and Armentieres there are signs of the enemy withdrawing from the front line. We are steadily progressing on the Cambrai front.

Beuter's correspondent at the British Headquarters, writing on Oct. 16, says: Belgian cavalry is within a mile of Thiel.

On the French Front.

London, Oct. 16.
Beuter correspondent at the French Headquarters, writing on Oct. 15, states: Our continued advance on the Laon Aisne front dissipated any enemy hope of standing on the prepared Serre-Sissonne-Bemmel line. French troops have been fighting incessantly for three weeks, most them with brief rests since Spring, but they scout the idea of an armistice. They know that what prevents the enemy retreating rapidly is his inability to escape without disastrous loss the trenches which Marshal Foch has thrown round him. The German retirement is technically well conducted. He got most of his material away, but is blocking the roads for the retreating troops. Hence in the retreat their pace has been compulsorily slackened and may prove the most costly operation the German Command has yet attempted.

A French communique states: North of the Aisne we advanced in the region of Arsonville. We skirt the southern bank of the Serre as far as Pouilly-sur-Serre, which is in our hands. We progressed north-east of Warchais, prisoner 400. Further east we captured Leselle and Nisley-Comte. Westward of Grandpre we hold the Vouziers-Grandpre Road. In this region we prisoner an additional 400.

A French aviation communique states: Deep reconnaissance by aeroplanes observed innumerable fires kindled by the enemy over the whole territory where he is retreating. Seven enemy machines were felled and four balloons set on fire. Our night-divers, despite fog and clouds, dropped six tons on important stations.

American Attacks Continued.

London, Oct. 16.
An American communique states: We continued our attacks on both sides of the Meuse, being stubbornly resisted by a reinforced enemy. Eastward of the Meuse the Franco-Americans gained ground. Westward the fighting violently increased. We gained substantially, including Hill 209, which thrice changed hands. We broke into Kriemhild and St. Ebling at new points where there was hand-to-hand fighting with the enemy. We prisoner some.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

THE BATTLES IN THE WEST.

The Belgian Progress.

London, Oct. 16.
A Belgian communique states: Franco-Belgians continued to advance on the whole front of attack. On the left the Belgians advanced several kilometres northwards of Hardzame-Cortimarek railway. In the centre the French carried the whole of Hoogledi Plateau and captured Gits and Gitsberg. French cavalry crossed the Boulers-Thourout road and advanced towards Lichtervelde. On the right the Belgians, co-operating with British operating further south, captured Wurckerhoeck and Lendelede and reached the railway from Courtrai to Ingelmünster. Over 7,000 prisoners have been counted and eighty guns. The Belgians captured a complete Regimental Staff.

King Albert in Command.

Paris, Oct. 16.
In the fresh blow on Flanders the British Second Army, the Belgian Army, and French contingents commanded by King Albert, attacked on a front of 28 miles from Dixmude to Wervicq, north of Lille. Rapid progress was made Roulers was captured and we advanced four kilometres. Courtrai and Lille are outflanked. Roulers is of considerable importance as the junction of four railways while 8,000 prisoners have been taken. The thrust threatens Bruges and Ostend and makes it difficult for the enemy to hold the Flanders coast.—Havas.

German Reports.

London, Oct. 16.
A wireless German official message states: The enemy continued his attacks and by fighting on the front in Flanders attained some limited territorial advantages. A wireless German official message states: The enemy penetrated beyond Iseghem-Courtrai railway line. We withdrew somewhat westward and south-westward of Lille. We evacuated a small salient position between Olizy and Grandpre along the Aisne towards Mouron.

LLOYD'S RATES.

London, Oct. 15.
Lloyds are charging £42 per cent for payment on total loss if peace is declared before Dec. 31 and £53 per cent if before March 31.

THE LEINSTER CRIME.

London, Oct. 15.
The "Evening News" states that the British Government holds conclusive proof that the U-Boat which sank the Leinster was sent out with deliberate instructions to destroy passenger boats running between England and Ireland after the German Chancellor had sent the peace note to President Wilson.

GERMAN SHIPS FOR SPAIN.

Madrid, Oct. 15.
A semi-official message announces that the German Embassy is handing over to Spain seven German ships, aggregating 21,000 tons to replace those torpedoed since August 14.

HORSE RACING.

London, Oct. 16.
The Cesarewitch resulted as follows:—1. Air Raid (25 to 1), 2. He (11 to 2), 3. Buckhorn (20 to 1). Air Raid won by a short head with 1½ lengths separating second and third. Twenty-four ran.

THE SERBIAN FRONT.

London, Oct. 16.
A Serbian communique states: In the course of fighting the Serbians carried the heights north of Nish and progressed especially on the left bank of the Morava. French cavalry have entered Pirot.

THE ALBANIAN SUCCESSES.

London, Oct. 16.
A wireless Italian official message states: In Albania we occupied Tirana.

London, Oct. 16.
A wireless Austrian official message says: We have evacuated Durazzo.

HIS MAJESTY AND THE RED CROSS.

London, Oct. 15.
Contributing £10,000 to the British Red Cross and Order of St. John His Majesty tributes the magnificent work of the Society and Order and says: "In all war theatres the joint Societies have relieved suffering, healed the sick and saved lives for the service of the Empire. They have also done much to alleviate the privations of prisoners of war."

A BYE-ELECTION.

London, Oct. 15.
The Coalitionist, Mr. O. Foxcroft has been returned unopposed for Bath.

IRISH CONSCRIPTION.

London, Oct. 16.
It is stated that the Government has postponed decision on the question of conscription in Ireland.

CANTON NEWS.

Our Canton correspondent writes as follows:—

The Civil Government.

As no information has been given by the Government in regard to the changing of the Civil Governor, many rumours prevail everywhere. Some say that Chak Wong, who has been appointed as acting Civil Governor, has been encouraged by the Tachun and the Military Government to take over the post, but he is warned by the other side that he does not take the step. Another report is that Li Lu-hon, the Civil Governor, has gone to Hongkong and after having had a private meeting with some high military officials from Canton, returned to Shanghai on the 14th inst. Another rumour says that Lam Fu, who has been ordered to be stationed in Hongkong with over 2,000 troops, was

sent nominally for the purpose of suppressing bandits but in reality to bar the advance of his troops in case they try to march to Canton. The inhabitants here are very uneasy on hearing these rumours.

An important telegram from Changchow, signed by all military officials, to the Tachun and Military Government, says that if Chang Kiang-ming's title is taken away and he is prohibited from begging military expenses the troops at the front will suffer terribly, and if the matter is not dropped they can see no other way than bringing the troops back to Canton and waiting for further orders.

Health Return.

The only case of communicable disease notified yesterday was a non-fatal occurrence of enteric, the sufferer being an Indian.

THE ROLL OF HONOUR.

Lieutenant Jasper Clark.

Considerable regret was felt in Hongkong at the news that Lieut. Jasper Clark been killed in action in France. Lieut. Clark first came to the East and joined the Hongkong staff of the Standard Oil Company of New York in 1904, in the lubricating department. He subsequently worked his way up to the responsibility of specialist in lubricating oils and when he left Hongkong for active service he was manager for the whole of South China in this very important branch of the Standard Oil Company's business. When war broke out, he immediately offered his services to the military authorities in Hongkong and after several attempts his medical examination papers were eventually sent home. It was a great disappointment to him when he was apprised that he could not be accepted, this being due to the fact that some years previously he had met with an accident to his ankle. This would have sufficed for any ordinary man, but Lieut. Clark was so keen on volunteering to do what is the duty of every able-bodied Britisher, that he resigned, much to the regret of the Standard Oil Company, and left for home in 1915. It was a great relief to him when he successfully passed the medical test at home and he took such a keen interest in his work that it was not long ere he was given a commission in the Sutherland Highlanders. He was a well-known and highly respected member of the Hongkong community, no-one more so, and the news of his death has caused a great feeling of loss to his host of friends and colleagues on the staff of the Standard Oil Company who had looked forward to the time when they would welcome him back.

Lieut. Clark was a very prominent football and rugby player. In this sport he earned a considerable reputation for himself, as he did also in golf, of which he was a keen player. In connection with this sport he played with Hongkong against Shanghai and on one or two occasions carried off the golf championship. Showing how deeply patriotic was Lieut. Clark, it must be mentioned that ever since the Prince of Wales Fund was started he religiously gave to it no less than one-half of his salary.

DOUBLE MURDER AT TIENTSIN.

Former Hongkong Resident Killed by Burglars.

Maasra, Caldbeck, Mac Gregor and Co., received a cable this morning from Tientsin stating that Mr. and Mrs. E. Gumpert were murdered last night. Mr. Gumpert was manager of the Tientsin branch of the firm. The Hongkong office was closed today as a mark of respect to the deceased.

From private information received, it transpires that Mr. and Mrs. Gumpert were attacked by burglars and subsequently killed. Full particulars of the murder are not to hand at present. Mr. Gumpert was manager of the Hongkong branch of Caldbeck MacGregor and Co. during 1903-1904 and afterwards at Tientsin. Prior to his coming to Hongkong, he was assistant manager of the firm's branch at Shanghai. Deceased had held the post of Captain in the Shanghai Volunteers, and was a well-known and a popular man in Shanghai.

Fell from Tramcar.

A Chinese female aged 31 has been sent to the Government Civil Hospital suffering from injuries received to her head, the result of falling from a tramcar on the Praya East.

EVIL OF LUXURY TAX.

May Change Us Into Shoddy Makers.

Some vigorous criticisms of the luxury tax were given to the Daily Chronicle recently by Mr. Montague Gluckstein, of Messrs. Lyons and Company.

"I regard the proposals, from general principles, as being likely to prove subversive to the best interests of the country. It is likely to turn us into producers of shoddy. Naturally, the tax will tend to fix a lower standard, to which manufacturers and producers will work, the result being inferior goods. That will mean laying the foundations of an inferiority of competing power with countries where no luxury tax is in operation. Even if the tax were only in force for two or three years mischief may be done.

"I will explain my theory more fully. The better class article will tend to go out of existence, consequently the skilled labour for those articles will vanish, and we shall lose our faculty for turning out high-class goods, for which Britain has always been noted. Cheap articles mean inferior materials, and this is a wasteful thing, economically. A suit of good cloth, or a pair of good boots, will not only last twice as long as the cheaper article, but prove more useful during that time, and more important still, save labour and material. It is economically better to produce the one superior article than the two inferior ones. The old saying about the best is the cheapest, in the long run, is true of so many classes of goods. Also to produce cheap stuff is wasteful of raw material.

"Let me give you a homely illustration. A lb. of good tea will make 70 to 80 cups of tea, of fine flavour; a lb. of cheap stuff only 30, and of poor taste.

"Generally speaking, the tax is bound to lower the standard of tone in life, and the outlook and goal of production—the key of which is quality. It is not good for a nation to get the craze for cheapness. The German is a case in point—he began as a producer of shoddy or cheap goods, but later on realised that quality must count, and it has taken him a generation to work upwards. The result is that in recent years German goods were competing with the better-class English goods and I think it will seriously handicap our competition with Germany and Austria, after the war, in neutral countries, if we allow our standard to be lowered. I know that taxes must be levied, but in my humble opinion, this luxury tax is a wrong way of doing things. The money should be collected at the source in some way, so that manufacturer and retailer can have a free hand with the public.

"Lastly, the machinery for collecting the tax will probably prove cumbersome and expensive and wasteful in labour. Who is to pay the expense of it? You cannot very well expect the trader to do so, consequently in the end the public, instead of paying 16 per cent, will probably pay something like 20 per cent, or even more. The essence of taxation is to impose it with the minimum of annoyance, but the luxury tax, I feel sure, will cause a lot of irritation, at a time when most people find a certain strain in life. One should not do anything that might be likely to create any feeling of war-weariness.

"It has been suggested that the tax will stop the notorious spending by munition workers in the big industrial centres. I do not believe it. They will buy the things and then demand higher wages to cover the increased charges."

Barrels of Stout from the Sea. About 150 barrels of stout have been washed ashore at Speeton and Bempston, and on the Yorkshire coast and near Birdlington over 1,000 empty barrels have rolled ashore. Villagers who have sampled stout from the full barrels say it is in excellent condition and none the worse for having been towed about in the sea.

DAY BY DAY.

Stabbed.

There has been sent to the Government Civil Hospital a Chinese, aged 20, suffering from stab wounds on the body, inflicted by a man now in custody, following a quarrel. The wounds are not considered very serious.

Japanese Shipper's Death.

There has been sent to the Mortuary at Kennedy Town the body of a Japanese male named E. Nakano, aged 55, master of the s.s. Uruga Maru. He is reported to have died on board the ship on the high seas at 10.15 a.m., on the 18th inst.

Typhoon Warning.

The following telegram was received by the American Consulate General, Hongkong, from the Manila Observatory at 7 p.m. yesterday:—"Cyclone or typhoon W. of Luzon, more than 100 miles distant, almost stationary. Cyclone or typhoon S. of Guam, direction unknown."

Traffic Prosecutions.

At the Police Court this morning, Inspector Garrod prosecuted several chair bearers and ricksha drivers for various breaches of the traffic regulations, such as being on the wrong side of the road and carrying articles other than persons or luggage. His Worship imposed fines ranging from \$1 to \$8.

Of Unsound Mind.

A Chinese female aged 40 years has been sent to the Government Civil Hospital and subsequently to the Lunatic Asylum. She was unable to give her address or any other particulars, and attempted to commit suicide by jumping into the Harbour off the Praya at Connaught Road West. She is apparently of unsound mind.

Heavy Fine.

A Chinese was charged at the Police Court this morning, before Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe, with being in unlawful possession of thirty-nine tins of non-Government opium in Wing Kat Street. Defendant said that he was entrusted with the opium by a friend. At the time of the arrest the opium was concealed in his belt. His Worship fined him \$4,000, or eight months' hard labour, and ordered the opium to be confiscated.

Cruelty to Pigeon.

A Chinese youth was charged at the Police Court this morning, before Mr. E. D. C. Wolfe, with pulling the feathers of a pigeon. Defendant said in excuse that the pigeon was dying, and the Magistrate retorted asking him whether he would like someone to pull his hair when he was dying. The defendant answered that he did not know that the bird would suffer pain by having its feathers plucked when in a dying condition. His Worship remarked that he ought to be civilised enough to know that the bird was subject to pain. He fined the defendant \$6, or twelve days' hard labour.

Result of Skyarking.

A Chinese was charged at the Police Court this morning, before Mr. J. B. Wood, with stabbing another Chinese at Third Street in West Point yesterday. Inspector MacDonald prosecuted and said that the complainant and a friend had a feast and there was drink, and apparently they had too much. Then the complainant and his friend went skyarking and the complainant pushed his friend against the defendant's bed. The defendant woke up and remonstrated with the defendant, a few words passed between them and the complainant gave a blow to the defendant. Then the defendant picked up a planing iron and stabbed the complainant three times, twice in the back and once in the thigh. His Worship remanded the case till next Friday.

POLICE RESERVE ORDERS.

Orders issued to-day by Mr. J. W. Franks, A.S.P. (R.), state:—

Parades Central, 5.30 p.m. October 21st.—No. 3 Company and No. 2 Platoon under Sergt. Major Royle, and No. 1 Platoon under Inspector Ennis. October 25th.—No. 2 Company under Inspector Ayres. Uniform. Helmets with spikes. P. O. 25. Tachun, Mac, Tak, is invalided out.

THE BUDGET DEBATE.

INTERESTING SPEECHES BY UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS.

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS REPLY TO POINTS RAISED.

On Thursday interesting speeches were delivered at the Legislative Council meeting on the second reading of the Supply Bill.

Mr. Landale's Speech.

The Hon. Mr. Landale was the first speaker. He said:—I propose to follow the usual procedure and, as the Senior Unofficial member for the time being, to address the Council on behalf of all Unofficial members. There are one or two matters to which I wish to refer on my own behalf which I will indicate later, and other Unofficial members have some matters they also wish to speak about.

I need hardly say that we all endorse your expression of sympathy with Sir Henry and Lady May and sincerely hope that the improvement in their daughter's health will continue and that the Governor will be able to enjoy a much needed rest and holiday.

I think the Government are to be congratulated on the very satisfactory state of the Colony's Finance. There has been a great improvement in this respect during recent years and much credit is due to those responsible for the Administration. It should not, however, be lost sight of that some of our Revenue is not derived from a permanent source and that taxation which is permissible in War-time will have to cease as soon as the War ends.

The first matter to which I wish to draw attention is the form in which the estimates are presented and to ask that radical alteration be made in this form. I do not think that it can be contended that it is either businesslike or clear. As an instance I would ask you to refer to the third item on page 8 which reads:—"Assessed taxes ordinance 6 of 1901: approved estimate 1918 \$1,557,400, estimate 1919 \$2,010,340." This amount includes the earnings of certain Government undertakings such as waterworks and should be detailed in such a way that the working result of any one of them could be seen. It is important that proper statements of individual works be shown, particularly so as Government undertakings tend to increase. The first cost of a work should appear in such statements and not as at present be entirely lost sight of.

It is a laborious business to extract from the estimates as now presented the cost of the working of many Government departments and undertakings and it would almost seem that the purpose is to befog the enquirer rather than to assist him. Some comments in the Press the other day illustrate what I mean. Owing to the figures of the Public Works Department and the Water Works being mixed up it is very difficult to say what the cost to the Colony of either Department is.

I feel quite sure that our able Colonial Treasurer could greatly improve matters were he allowed a free hand; if not expert Chartered Accountants should be employed.

The monthly financial statements of assets and liabilities are very difficult to understand. For instance the shipping control account is shown on the 30th June as a liability of \$51,508.47 when it is well known the result will be a very profitable one to the Government. It is difficult to say where the sinking funds to the two loans are and we should like to know and to be assured that the sinking fund for the Sterling Loan is invested in that currency.

The value of property purchased by the Government for staff occupation or other purposes is not shown as an asset which I think is wrong, and the position would be more correctly set out by including valuation of such property. I do not think it is right that the value for instance of quarters which amounts to a very large sum should be lost sight of. The rents charged for the recent Government purchases of house property on the Peak show a return of about 5 per cent. on the capital only without providing for any depreciation. We are in favour of providing quarters but we would like a record of the cost kept.

We presume that the Government have considered the question of the

conversion of the Sterling Loan into one of local currency at the existing high rate of exchange, a financial transaction which should not be beyond the powers of the Government's Bankers. A redemption by purchase at a considerable discount could no doubt be effected as regards a large portion of this Loan. There would be no loss in interest by investments of the balance in 8 per cent. War Loan pending complete redemption. The saving to the Colony comparing recent rates with that of 8½ to the dollar would be in the neighbourhood of \$35,000,000.

I notice that it has been estimated that receipts from land sales will amount to \$300,000 during the year, not a very large sum, for which, in my opinion, the land policy of the Government is to blame. The result of the present policy of short leases, for which a high premium is demanded, and a Crown Rent imposed, in addition to onerous terms for road making and drainage, is the present shortage of better class houses. This policy was no doubt inaugurated in the interest of the community as a whole, and to prevent as far as possible profit being made in land transactions. While a very small annual benefit, as shown by the estimated figure of \$300,000, may have been secured to the community it has been done at very great inconvenience to those who wish to live in better class houses, and the effect upon land transactions as far as existing leased property is concerned, has been exactly the opposite of what was intended, for the supply of new houses having been interfered with the value of house property has been forced up both from a rental and sale point of view by the ordinary rule of supply and demand.

The Government's policy having checked the natural supply of houses it is for them to undertake the laying out of sites and the leasing of these prepared sites at low Crown Rents to those who desire immediately to build. In what I have said regarding land sales I am speaking entirely for myself, it is a matter which I have not discussed with the other Unofficial Members. There is another point which requires consideration. Very large properties situated in the centre of both the City of Victoria and Kowloon are in occupation of the War Department. Many of these sites must be quite unsuitable for military purposes or for military quarters and the whole matter requires looking into with a view to an exchange of property whereby the Garrison would find more suitable quarters and the business community more space for development.

We shall be glad to hear that the Government intend to take this matter up.

"Storm Signals."—On page 40 we have the estimated cost of the Royal Observatory and I would like to point out that we do not think the best results in the interests of shipping will be obtained by the Hong Kong Observatory having a different Storm Signal Code from that in use at the Coast Ports of China. Before this new Code was adopted, the matter was not sufficiently clearly explained to those who represent shipping here. Without going into the merits of the dispute between the Royal Observatory and the Coast Inspector in Shanghai I may say that I think they both disregarded the interests of those who have to pay if accidents result from the confusion they have created. An Observatory is of little use unless it is working in harmony with neighbouring stations and we wish the Government to take up this question of Storm Signals with the authorities in China and arrange for the use of identical codes. Every precaution should be taken to avoid typhoon disasters and a heavy responsibility rests upon both the Royal Observatory here and the Meteorological Authorities in China in this respect.

It is a matter for regret that so many conditions and distinctions have been attached to the war allowance to the payment of which we had previously agreed and upon further consideration of the subject we wish the whole question referred back to the Secretary of State for

the Colonies and a recommendation sent from us that the War Bonus as from 1st January, 1918, should be 10 per cent. on the present amount received by each member of the Civil Service whether permanently or temporarily employed without condition or distinction. In the meantime we purpose to move in Committee a supplementary vote sufficient for this purpose.

We consider that a Committee should be appointed to enquire into and revise where necessary the scale of pay drawn by the entire Government Service. This should be done without any further delay as it is a matter that will probably take some considerable time to go into. The same Committee might also enquire into the working of the Widows and Orphans' Fund regarding which we are not at all satisfied that the contributors are being fairly dealt with, but my hon. friend who represents the Chamber of Commerce proposes to ask for some information on this subject.

We consider the amount of \$2,500 set down for afforestation in the Northern district as inadequate and would like to see a large sum spent upon this work.

We are not satisfied that the Fire Brigade has an adequate permanent staff or that the equipment is sufficient and up to date and we would like an assurance from the Government that the very important matter is being fully considered and attended to.

As regards education Mr. Pollock referred to this matter when the supplementary estimates were under discussion before this Council and other hon. members have something to say on this subject. Generally speaking we would be prepared to vote a large sum for education.

As to a better class school for which there appears to be a demand, personally I would rather see some scheme drawn up and approved whereby some arrangement could be made by which the parents of European children, who under existing circumstances cannot afford to send their children to a cooler climate for their education, would be enabled to do so without additional cost rather than that public money should be spent upon establishing an expensive school here where the climate is unsuitable for children. For instance would it not be possible to subsidise some school at Weihaiwei so that the fee charged the parents would be the same as if the school were situated in Hongkong.

We now come, Sir, to the Estimates for the Public Works Department and as my hon. friend who now represents the Justices of the Peace is an expert in such matters he will be able to make more valuable criticisms than I can, I therefore intend to only briefly refer to a few of the items under the heading Public Works Extraordinary. Before doing so however I would like to read you an extract from a speech I made in this Council on the 23rd October, 1913, when the estimates for the year 1914 were under discussion.

The first matter I would like to refer to is one that has been called attention to by the hon. member who represents the Chamber of Commerce. Shortly after I had the honour of becoming a member of this Council, His Excellency the Governor announced that I had been appointed a member of the Public Works Committee. That, Sir, is practically the last I have heard about this Committee. As far as I know, apparently it rarely, if ever, meets, and as far as I know it has not been consulted regarding the very large expenditure on public works which are proposed in this Budget. The Unofficial Members of this Committee are quite willing to give any such advice and assistance they can in connection with these public works and regarding such works as the Public Works Department undertake, and they do not appreciate the figure-head position which is at present accorded to this Committee, which must originally have been created for some useful purpose.

The result of that speech was that when the Committees were rearranged for the following year I was not appointed to the Public Works Committee but was appointed by H.E. the Governor a member of the Law Committee a subject which I know very little about.

Now, Sir, it is the unanimous desire of the Unofficial Members of this Council that the estimates for the Public Works should in future be submitted in the first instance to the Public Works Committee, and fully explained to them and discussed by them before they come before this Council. We would like to see the Public Works Committee enlarged so

as to comprise all the Unofficial Members of Council.

If the inauguration of this procedure does not meet with approval here or is beyond the power of H.E. the Governor, or the Officer Administering the Government for the time being, which I cannot believe it is, we wish the proposal submitted to the Secretary of State for the Colonies and his sanction obtained therefor. For all such expenditure on buildings, as the Central Police Station extension, Imports and Exports Office, Quarters for European Officers on Leighton Hill, Quarters for scavenging coolies comprised in items 1, 2, 3, 5 on page 97 we would all like to see the plans before being asked to vote the money. We particularly wish to know in what way the \$30,000 asked for this year for the Imports and Exports Office is going to be spent. We wish to know how it is proposed to construct this building and are most strongly adverse to any piece meal construction such as was adopted in building the Law Courts with such disastrous results. A contract for the complete construction of a building such as finished within a year or eighteen months. Any other method we consider should be let by tender to be considered unnecessary and wasteful.

We hope the construction of this building does not foreshadow a continuation of the irksome demands of this office which are only put up with as a war measure, and have very largely increased the clerical labours in all shipping and other offices. It must not be lost sight of that Hongkong owes its prosperity to the fact that until quite recently it was a free port and the sooner it becomes again a free port the better.

I would like again to protest against the system under which all such Public Works are paid for out of Revenue. The only businesslike way of supplying the Colony with such works is by means of short loans in local currency with adequate sinking funds which would provide the amount required for each year while more equitably distributing the burden of repayment. We would like to see a scheme of the kind adopted.

The Unofficial Members of the Sanitary Board have represented to us the absolute necessity for the provision of a poultry market and we wish a sum of \$50,000 included in the estimates for that purpose.

The programme for road construction we welcome but it was with very much regret that we listened to the reply of the Government to the question asked by the Hon. Member who represents the Justices of the Peace regarding the road from Pokfulam to the Peak suggested by the Automobile Association acting under the best expert advice. I could have understood the reply had the Director of Public Works, for whom I have a great respect, been here, for his somewhat Victorian ideas of the development of the Colony are well-known, but for this reply to be given with a young and energetic Acting Director of Public Works at the head of the Department is amazing. We take it the reply means that the Government does not wish to construct the road for although they say they know of a better, nothing has been put in the estimates for this better road, on that side of the hill at any rate. We should be sorry to think that this proposed shelving of the matter is due to pique and that our road will be trotted out a few years hence, as a fresh proposal from the P.W.D. The road would open up many good building sites and would pay for itself in a short time. Motor access to the Peak is much wanted and we therefore wish \$100,000 added to the estimates for this road.

We would like to have some particulars of the very large amount put down for Reclamation at Sai Shuipo. We notice with surprise that no provision has been made for the Eastern Reclamation scheme and we are quite at a loss to understand the very dilatory way in which the Government has handled this matter. The overcrowding in the Wan-chai District is notorious, and the offensive condition of the foreshore all along the Praya at low tide is also only too well known. As the cost of this very much needed Public Works in a great measure will fall upon the Marine Lot holders Public economy does not enter largely into the question and we would like to know the cause of the delay and to see the work immediately commenced.

We are glad to hear that the outlying Police Station at Tai O is to be connected by telephone. The Telephone at all Police Stations should be connected with the Central Exchange and direct communication thus established instead of as at present through the Central Police Station. We should like the Government to take immediate steps to effect this connection with the Central Exchange.

We think the station tower at Kowloon has been long enough without a clock and we would like to see this rectified and a suitable clock that would show the time by night as well as by day placed in the position which has already been provided for it. With regard to the Military Contribution we are still very strongly opposed in principle to the method of Assessment but for patriotic reasons we do not propose to press the matter until after the War. The injustice inflicted upon the personnel of the Fleet and the Army by the rate of exchange at which the Naval and Military Services are paid in Hongkong has been represented as you know, Sir, to the Government at Home and so far has not been adequately adjusted. We feel very strongly on this point and would like to know whether any reply has been received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies. We consider that the amount required for this exchange compensation would be a fair charge on the revenues of the Colony during the War, and demobilisation of the Army.

As far as I can make out from the somewhat cryptic figures which I have received from the Colonial Treasurer the working of the British Section of the Kowloon Canton Railway has shown a loss of \$2,500,000 to date. I do not wish to blame the Officials who manage the British Section of the line but I am not convinced that the Government have done everything in their power to improve matters.

It is well known that the management of the Chinese Section leaves much to be desired, that the junction of the line with the Kwangtung Railway is necessary for improved earnings, and also the completion of the Hankow Line to the Kwangtung border. Now, have the Government energetically attempted to bring about any of these things which are so essential to the future of Hongkong? I am not sure that they have done so. I am afraid they are so wrapped up in the Municipal Administration of this place that these larger trading matters are neglected. I think the Colonial Office having many other matters to attend to are not interested in British trade with China of which Hongkong is the chief Depot. I think the Government of this Colony is out of touch with the Foreign Office who look after British trading interests elsewhere in this part of the world.

With a multitude of Government Departments, the Colonial Office, the Foreign Office, the Overseas Department of the Board of Trade, the Ministry of Commerce, we have not even yet got a Commercial Attaché in Hongkong, we have no scheme for improving British trade after the War.

In this Budget no provision is made for even the commencement of the Works required to fit this place for the terminus of a great Continental Railway and three or four years is all that is necessary to complete the connections once an Agreement between the Government of Great Britain and China has been arrived at.

I do not know, Sir, whether you have read the recently published report on the provision of a great harbour in China of sufficient size and depth of water to provide for the confidently expected great increase of trade on the Pacific Ocean. In that report the cost of providing such a harbour at Shanghai or Tsingtau is estimated at £15,000,000—or say £30,000,000—and it is considered by a competent authority that it would cost about the same amount to improve the Hongkong Harbour to the same extent. It is ships with a draft of from 40 to 50 feet that are expected. This matter of Harbour improvement requires the earnest consideration of the Government and would form a fitting subject for submission to and discussion by the enlarged Public Works Committee to which I have already referred.

With the improved position in Europe and the prospect of an early termination of the War it behoves us to seriously consider the work that it will be necessary to take in hand after Peace has been declared. A Peace, which we sincerely trust will be worthy of the sacrifices made by those who have fought and by those who have died in the Great Cause for which the Allies have been fighting the Freedom of the World.

Mr. Holyoak's Address.

Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak said in studying the estimates of the year 1919 he noticed nothing with regard to the salaries of Government officers, which almost without exception were inadequate. That was recognised by the Government was proved more or less by the fact that they constantly "saw duty pay" added to salary, which, he concluded, was given because the Government recognised that the salaries were insufficient. Be that as it might they all thought the time had come for a revision of salaries upon modern lines and in tune with the expenses of the day. Under "Administration" they would like to see an item included for the provision of a good motor car for Government House. The day had gone by when they could meet visitors to these shores with the somewhat antiquated method of Government House chairs and in keeping with the spirit of the hour they would like to see a first class car provided as part of the equipment of Government House and, if one might venture the criticism, it would not be out of place if Government House were brought a little more up to date in the matter of furniture. It was probable that in the course of coming days, at the conclusion of the war, they would have distinguished visitors passing more frequently through Hongkong than had been the case in the past and these things tended to make an impression and could not be disregarded.

Under the heading of Education the report of the Committee appointed by the Governor to enquire into the teaching of English in Government schools which was laid before the Council on August 2nd, 1917 stated that Saiyungpan school was on a most unsuitable site, being between two busy roads on a very narrow site and opposite a very noisy row of houses. The accommodation was insufficient and could not be extended. They recommended that the site be abandoned and a new school built on a more suitable site, which they recommended should be in the eastern district. He had looked in vain through the estimates for any provision for the new school, which was unanimously suggested by the Committee, nor even that the temporary accommodation which had been existing in the shape of two matsheds ever since 1913 should, in case a site could not be found immediately, be replaced by a permanent building more suitable for teaching. Hon. Mr. Bird and himself had visited this school only a few days before and they found the school crowded and he had no hesitation in saying that the matsheds in which teaching was going on in that school were not suitable and were resented by Chinese. He thought provision should be made either for the rebuilding of the school or the alteration of the present building. The school was known to be doing well, it was crowded and they were turning away scholars because they could not accommodate them, thus forcing them to go to other schools when they preferred to go to that one. In connection with the same question he suggested that the grade of the school, in justice to the headmaster, although he held no brief for him, should be raised to that of the Ellis Kadoorie school, because at the present time the master was teaching a considerably larger number of pupils.

His Excellency: You mean grade of salary.

Hon. Mr. Holyoak: Grade of salary? I presume grade of school.

His Excellency: The grade of the school is exactly the same.

Hon. Mr. Holyoak proceeded that Mr. Landale had touched upon the necessity of making some provision for the sons and daughters of Europeans, who, owing to circumstances, were unable to send their children home for education. That there was likely to be a more or less growing permanent population of that character in the City of Victoria could not be denied. That they must provide for their education equally could not be denied and whether it be in the form of an assisted school or a thoroughly up to date central school where a finished education could be given to boys and girls to fit them for future life, was a matter for further discussion. They submitted that it deserved the very serious consideration of the Government.

Under Public Works Extraordinary he was glad to find at last that a sum of money was estimated for the improvement of the Lunatic Asylum which had long been a disgrace to the Colony. He could have wished that this had been part of a

larger scheme to include the whole of the hospitals. He had already dwelt on the unsuitability of the present hospital and the member representing the Justices of the Peace also dealt with it fully from the building point of view and he suggested its removal to a more suitable site from a health point of view. That the present site could hardly be regarded as curative from a European point of view could not be denied. He would also have liked to have seen some reference to the development of Victoria Hospital. It was a question which he asked some months ago in Council and the reply given was he considered eminently unsatisfactory and he had hoped that they would have borne fruit in the estimates. The hospital was originally intended for Europeans and certainly was intended, as far as he could trace the original purpose of it, for taking in maternity cases. For a very considerable time past these had been denied entrance, and he submitted that the Victoria Hospital was not fulfilling the intention of the people who subscribed the funds in the first place, or the greatest object of public health interests. He hoped the Government would see its way clear to deal with it and he asked that a committee of enquiry be appointed.

On the building of roads he offered congratulations to the Government for the remarkable progress which had been made on this side in the improvement of roads for motor traffic. Last year he criticised freely, and he thought justly, on the fact that a great deal of money was being spent in developing land on the other side at the expense of necessary improvements on this side to avoid danger. Since that time a better policy had been followed and there had been a remarkable improvement between here and Deep Water Bay. On behalf of the Unofficial Members he tendered hearty congratulations to the Government. In the estimates he had not noticed any provision for improvement of the Dairy Farm Road down to Aberdeen Docks, part of which was very dangerous and he hoped that during the coming year the Government would be able to provide for improvements so as to make it as perfect as other parts.

His Excellency: You are referring to the portion of the road beyond the Dairy Farm?

Mr. Holyoak: Beyond the Dairy Farm down to Aberdeen Docks. They hoped also that Kennedy road would shortly be open to motor traffic and if not all of it at least the first part of it, especially in view of the fact that very shortly that would be the terminus of the Peak Tramway for some months to come.

Coming to charitable services and grants in aid of Charitable Institutions he would suggest that the vote to the Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals should be increased from \$300 to \$1,000. It was doing excellent work, was in need of funds, and deserved larger support from the Government. In considering these votes he was somewhat astounded to see the sum of \$15,000 allocated to "German Charitable Institutions." He would only presume that the vote was intended to carry on the work which was taken over from the German institutions such as the Blindenheim, and the Berlin Foundling Home. But if that were the case he was amazed that the Government should so use the term "German," so very offensive in these days to every right thinking person. It would have been better put in as a vote in support of charitable institutions taken over from the Germans.

His last criticism dealt with the "Widows and Orphans' Fund" and he thought the Government must have been aware of the extreme dissatisfaction which seemed to exist throughout the Civil Service in connection with that fund and therefore he felt sure the Government would be prepared to deal sympathetically with what he had to say. As far as he could make out from the estimates the sum of \$53,000 was estimated as revenue and their outgoing payments in pensions amounted to \$27,000 leaving a profit for the year of \$26,000 which, he presumed, was intended to be used as was apparently done for some years, as revenue. As far as he was aware this fund was begun in 1891, 4 per cent was deducted from the salaries of all the Civil Servants compulsorily and in 1906 by order of the Secretary of State the fund was taken over by the Government and administered. Since that time the 8 per cent

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THE BUDGET DEBATE.

(Continued from page 9.)

had not been credited to the fund. He spoke subject to correction. He said those things because he had had deputation after deputation for the last six months on the subject and if the Government was not aware that there was very great dissatisfaction and very great suspicion in the administration of this fund the sooner they recognised it the better. The grievance apparently was this, that if the fund had not been taken over the original fund of \$371,000 would by this time, with the compulsory deductions which were enforced and the 6 per cent. of the Government, which would have accrued, would have been now somewhere about a million dollars or over, and the pension to the widows would have been on a very much higher ratio than at present. Further there was a very considerable grievance that a bachelor had to pay into this fund willy nilly and if he died a bachelor he could not regain any part of it, which was most unjust.

His Excellency: Hear, hear.

Mr. Holyoak on behalf of the civil servants therefore asked for full statement and explanation of the present condition of the fund, which seemed to call for very full consideration and if needs be revaluation of the fund and that a committee of enquiry should be appointed to deal with the whole matter.

The Hon. Mr. Ho Fook.

Hon. Mr. Ho Fook: Sir, I rise to endorse the remarks of the honourable member representing the Chamber in reference to the Saiyungpun School and the salary of its Headmaster. I wish at the same time to touch upon the question of vernacular education in this Colony. At the beginning of 1917, in order to meet a long-felt and much needed want, the Confucian Society, supported by the generosity of certain Chinese gentlemen, opened a number of free Chinese schools in different parts of the Colony for the education of the children of those who would otherwise be unable, through poverty, to send them to school. Mr. Lau Chu-pak, in his capacity as President of the Society, represented the matter to the Government, and asked that the schools be brought under the Grant-in-aid Scheme. Although the representation was made as far back as March 1917, I am sorry that no provision for this very necessary expenditure has been made in the Estimates now before us. It is no exaggeration to say that the children of the Chinese labouring class to-day have smaller chances of receiving even an elementary education in their own language than those of a decade or so ago when, as some of you may remember, the Government maintained a number of free Chinese schools. There must be thousands of children here whose fathers belong to this class, and who are British-born subjects; and the State owes them the duty of giving them at least an elementary vernacular education so as to enable them to become useful members of society. I am therefore strongly of the opinion which, I know, is shared by the leading members of Chinese Community, that the Government should re-establish free vernacular schools, and assist those free Chinese schools which owe their existence to private enterprise, by bringing them under the Grant-in-aid Scheme. If it is now too late to make provision for the latter in the Estimates for next year, I suggest that a supplementary vote be taken as soon as possible.

Arising out of the consideration of the estimated expenditure under "Law and Order," I desire to make some suggestions for the suppression of serious crimes in the Colony. Murders, armed robberies, cutting and wounding, and burglaries seem to be on the increase, and I think that the number of such offences can best be reduced by stronger measures being taken to prevent the smuggling of arms into Hongkong, and the unlawful possession of deadly weapons. Some measure of success might be achieved in this direction if notices in English and Chinese warning passengers against infringements of the Arms Ordinance were posted upon board the steamers calling at this port. I have no doubt that owners and agents of such steamers would gladly co-operate with the Government in this matter. In the case of persons who are known to the Authorities to be undesirable, and without regular employment, but who cannot for want of evidence be deported, the

Government might take power to require them to furnish security for their future good behaviour, or, in default, to quit the Colony.

I am glad, sir, that in your Budget speech you expressed appreciation of the good work done by the Police Reserve in supervising the search of passengers' baggage at the various wharves. Since they were put on this work some five months ago on the recommendation of a Committee on which I had the honour to serve, not a single complaint of "squeeze" against the searchers has come to notice. (Applause.) On behalf of my Chinese colleague and myself as representing the Chinese Community, I desire here to record our grateful thanks.

Other Speeches.

Hon. Mr. Chan Kai Ming said: Sir—The views and suggestions of my Chinese colleague have my cordial support. As an old resident, I well remember the free Government vernacular schools mentioned by him. There are still living several prominent members of the Chinese Community who received the rudiments of their education at such institutions. It would be interesting to speculate what the honourable member of this Council for whom I am now acting, would have become, had he not had chance of a free vernacular and English education in his young days. The probability is that Hongkong would have lost one of its most public-spirited and useful citizens. There may, at this moment, be many youngsters among the poor who, if given the same opportunity, might one day rise to positions of honour similar to those attained by our friend, and render important services to the Colony. A system of education which neglects the upbringing of the children of the poor must be wrong, and the sooner it is remedied the better it will be for the good name of this prosperous and otherwise progressive Colony. With regard to the question of a wholesale poultry market, I also find myself in agreement with the honourable member representing the Justices of the Peace. I was a member of the Sub-Committee of the Sanitary Board mentioned by him, and I know how real and insatiable the nuisance complained of is. I am sure that if the officials who have authority to deal with and dispose of this matter were to spend a couple of hours in K'o Shing or Li Shing Street while sorting of poultry in progress, they would have the nuisance stopped in very quick time. After all, the amount necessary for building this market is not so very large an outlay that the Colony cannot bear, especially when it will bring in a not inconsiderable revenue. I therefore urge that the work be proceeded with at once.

Hon. Mr. S. H. Dodwell: The ground has been so well covered by the other unofficial members that there is only one point I wish to raise; but that I think is an important one. It has reference to the controlled ships account, which was briefly touched upon by the hon. senior unofficial member.

Sir, I presume from the fact that certain items in these accounts from the fact that they have not been kept separate that it does not mean that the local Government purposes to appropriate the profits arising from this ship control scheme. I take it that the account will not only be kept separate, but the proceeds will in due course be handed over to the Home Government.

Government Replies

The Hon. Acting Director of Public Works, replied to points raised by the Unofficial Members. With reference to the questions raised by the Hon. Mr. Landale he would like to point out the shortage of staff in the department, which influenced nearly everything dealt with in the office at the present time. Out of a total of 20 engineers they had at present only 17 and out of 30 overseers there were only 18 on duty. They had lost an engineer and one of their chief overseers by death quite recently and that made things worse than before. With regard to the Imports and Exports office the sum provided represented a portion of the scheme, which dealt with the Connaught Road front. The total amount on the estimates for that particular building was \$70,553 and it was to be completed in fifteen months from July 1918. Some point had been raised as to why they did not do the whole scheme at once. It was divided in this way in order to disturb the work of the department as little as possible. If the whole scheme were undertaken at one time it would have been necessary to find temporary accommodation for all the department elsewhere, in addition to living quarters for many

other employees, which was not practicable. Another thing was dealing with the block on the Connaught Road front, which did not take the same design as the Harbour Office, they were enabled to make a start on it very rapidly and while that was proceeding they were able to proceed with the drawings of the main block and so the whole scheme would go through more quickly than would otherwise be the case. A similar expedient was adopted with the Central Police Station. The foundations did not need much work in the office and while they were proceeding the drawings for the rest of the work were prepared and had it not been for the iron material being held up the work would have been finished now. The next question asked was with reference to the Sham Shui-po reclamation. The total scheme provided for 625 acres of which 250 acres were building land and it was estimated that 5,000 houses could be built. The only part that had been dealt with at present under the estimate was the part shown as A on the map which contained about 70 the building area being nearly 58 acres. This would be completed in about three years and they would be able to build from 36 to 40 houses per acre on the building area. The total cost of this operation was put in the estimates at \$730,000. The delay in proceeding with the work of the Praya East reclamation was due to the fact that certain negotiations with lot holders were not complete, also to a slight extent the work was held up by the absence of the engineers carrying out the work Mr. Jaffe and Mr. Duncan who had been very much associated with this work were on leave and would return at the beginning of next year. With regard to the question asked by Hon. Mr. Landale referring to telephones in the New Territory, if they had only one line to Central Station that would mean making the Central having a switch at Central Station which would make it subsidiary to the telephone exchange which was not deemed desirable.

As to carrying out the plan of the Automobile Association referred to by Mr. Landale, whom he thanked for his compliments, he thought the reply stated that it would receive consideration and under the scheme it was receiving consideration. The plans were in skeleton, but it would take some detailed surveys before they could be dealt with, but certainly it would receive consideration. At the present moment the office had more than it was able to do. The suggestions re Saiyungpun School, the Lunatic Asylum would also receive consideration. The matter of signs on lamp posts was a matter of detail. Regarding the crematorium he regretted to say that it was partly his own fault that that matter had not gone through the Public Works Committee. The omission was due to pressure of work.

The Hon. Colonial Treasurer replying to question raised by the speaker said that regarding the form of the accounts that was explained some few years ago. It was adopted on the instructions of the Secretary of State. In connection with the loan it was suggested that there was no information about the investments of the sinking fund. He pointed out that this information was given on the 31st December each year and was laid on the table with the annual accounts. It was tabled some time last May.

His Excellency: The suggestion was that the high exchange should be made use of.

The Colonial Treasurer: That is another point. It is a suggestion which might be considered, I have no remarks to make at present.

His Excellency: It has to be remembered that sterling securities in the which the sinking fund is invested have much depreciated.

The Colonial Treasurer: That will have to be taken into account. Another important point to which two speakers referred to was the Widows and Orphans' Fund. It was very likely that it would be found that the figures in the present schedule were somewhat smaller than the fund could well afford but to say that with certainty would be impossible without valuation by actuaries and experts in these matters. The fact that the 6 per cent was not paid was of course obvious any expert in insurance. On the subject of shipping control he assured the council that the accounts were kept quite distinct and separate and even in the Treasury statement the account of the credit of shipping was put as a liability of the Government.

The Hon. Colonial Secretary said that in reply to Mr. Holyoak, who asked for a full statement regarding the Widows and Orphans' Fund, the Colonial Treasurer had outlined the position, but had not given details to enable Hon. Members to understand how the position came about. In 1908 the fund was taken over and a sessional paper was laid on the table which contained a sketch of the history of the fund up to that date. As the Hon. Member said the fund was established in 1891.

The Colonial Secretary—The hon. member representing the Chamber of Commerce has asked for a full statement regarding the Widows and Orphans' Pension Fund, and the Treasurer has outlined the position, stating that a valuation is required, but has not given the details which will enable hon. members to understand how the present position is come to. In 1908, when the Fund was taken over, a sessional paper was laid on the table which contained a sketch of the history of the Fund up to date. The hon. member stated the Fund was established in 1891. Using the words of a Secretary of State:—

"To prevent the possibility of widows and orphans of deceased Colonial officials being left destitute through the omission or inability of the latter to make proper provision for them, Funds were established during the eighties and early nineties—in Ceylon, Mauritius, the Straits Settlements, the Federated Malay States, Hongkong, Jamaica, Trinidad and British Guiana; and all permanent officers were required to contribute 4 per cent. of their salaries to the Fund. The Government made in effect a large contribution to the Fund by agreeing to pay interest at the high rate of 6 per cent. on the monies belonging to the Fund which were deposited with it. Pensions were paid to widows or orphans of contributors according to Pension Tables prepared by Actuaries based upon the best mortality statistics available."

"Early in the present century it became evident that the Fund system, though necessary to enable the pension system to be started, was not altogether satisfactory, and the policy of successive Secretaries of State recently has been to get the Colonial Government to take over the Funds and to guarantee the pensions in return for the 4 per cent. contributions."

"The proposal that the Government should take over the Fund was first placed before the Hongkong Government by the Secretary of State in July, 1902, and in February, 1903, your predecessor wrote stating that the Executive Council and the Directors of the Fund unanimously agreed to the adoption of that course. Correspondence followed mainly as to whether the Pension Tables recently introduced in Ceylon might properly be adopted in Hongkong when the Fund was taken over—but in April, 1905, Mr. Lyttelton forwarded a draft of an ordinance to effect the transfer of the Fund and asked that it might be introduced as soon as convenient."

That proposal was put before the Civil Servants. A Committee was appointed to enquire and report upon the proposal. We reported in November, 1905.

(i) That the Service is unanimously opposed to the proposal that the Fund should be transferred to the Government.

(ii) That a majority of contributors are in favour of a compulsory insurance scheme, in place of the present Pensions Scheme.

(iii) That a majority prefer that the existing scheme should continue, but are of the opinion that the pensions are insufficient in view of the large amount of the total annual contributions. They further suggest that the daughters of deceased officers should be supported from the Fund until marriage instead of until the age of twenty-one years only.

"With regard to the question of the transfer of the Fund the Committee desire to point out that the Government has, under Section 13 of Ordinance No. 20 of 1890 and Section 5 of Ordinance No. 3 of 1900, guaranteed that all contributions shall during the continuance of the Fund bear interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum.

"Under present circumstances the Government employs the Fund for purposes of General Expenditure paying 6 per cent. compound interest for the use of the money. The Committee understands that it is now proposed that the Government should come to pay interest upon it. The Government is apparently of the opinion that the annual expenditure in respect of pensions and cost of management will ultimately equal if not exceed the sum of the annual contributions together with interest on the capital calculated at 6 per cent. The Civil Service on the other hand anticipate that the capital of the Fund will increase so largely as to revise and to increase the rates of pension; and they are prepared to undertake for themselves the risk that the Government now proposes to undertake, namely that the expenditure may eventually exceed the income."

"With regard to the second of the Committee's findings it is urged by a majority of the contributors that each officer is in natural justice entitled to the eventual return with interest of that portion of his salary which he has been compelled to surrender. They suggest in place of the existing scheme a scheme of compulsory individual insurance based upon the present 4 per cent. reduction of salary with the stipulation that the policies shall be held by the Government or by a Board of Directors and that an officer shall have no power to alienate his policy from his wife or children or to discontinue his payments thereon."

The Service was unanimously opposed to the proposal, and made certain recommendations. The Government accepted these recommendations and Ordinance 17 of 1906 was passed, showing the benefits we were to get. This was sent Home and the Ordinance was disallowed. The Secretary of State, towards the close of his dispatch, says:—

"I will now proceed to explain the reasons for the abolition of the Fund. By this course the interests of members of the Fund are in no way injured. The Government binds itself to pay pensions according to Pension Tables mentioned in the Ordinance, and the rates contained in those Tables are based on the assumption that compound interest at 6 per cent. is, and will continue in effect to be, paid by the Government. The only advantage which Government obtains is that it is relieved from the necessity (inherent in the old system of these Funds) of contributing 6 per cent. compound interest on surpluses, should such exist, which have the effect of continuously increasing the surpluses and of throwing on the Government a larger burden than was reasonable or necessary. On the other hand if there were at any time a deficit, the funds system would tend to increase that deficit, since the Government contribution would then be calculated on a balance smaller than that needed to meet the future liabilities of the fund, and the Government contribution would therefore be less than the amount required to maintain an equilibrium between the assets and liabilities. Thus the normal condition of the fund must be one of more or less unstable equilibrium, and this unsatisfactory condition would be intensified through the small size of the Hongkong Fund. Besides those indicated above, the policy recommended has other advantages. The necessity for periodic costly and troublesome valuations is avoided. Moreover the experience of other colonies has shown that where distinct funds with separate accounts exist it is difficult to satisfy that members who when the assets of the Fund have reached or the contributable figure are apt to think that the pensions can be considerably increased or the contributions reduced."

"I have felt it necessary to advise His Majesty to exercise his powers of disallowance in respect of Ordinance No. 17 of 1906 and it is disallowed accordingly. I informed you of the disallowance in my telegram of the 12th inst."

The matter was referred again to the Committee and they reported in June, 1907, that a large majority of the members were strongly opposed to the Fund being taken over by the Government. That was forwarded to the Secretary of State, and the reply was: "I may say at once that I am not prepared to consider the substitution of an insurance scheme for the Fund," and, again, "I have therefore come to the conclusion that the original proposal that the Government should take over the Fund and guarantee pensions on the Ceylon pension tables in return for the four per cent. contributions must be adopted, and I have to request that you will take steps at an early date to introduce and pass the necessary Ordinance." That was done, and Ordinance 15 of 1908 was passed. The Fund was taken over on the 1st of January, 1909; interest at six per cent. being credited up to that date. Hon. members have asked for the figures. I have worked

them out roughly, taking the receipts of the four per cent. contributions and deducting the payments for expenses, pensions, etc. The capital sum would now be \$1,117,335. The interest on that would be \$67,000. In the figures before you to-day the estimated receipts are \$53,000. That gives an income of \$120,000. The expenditure before you to-day is estimated at \$27,000. Although the Secretary of State has pointed out the undesirability of these valuations, I have no doubt he would be willing to consider the valuation of the Fund on the present basis. No doubt the Fund has been peculiarly fortunate in having no heavy pension calls upon it. One other matter I may mention. It is connection with the shipping funds. The money is kept in sinking funds for insurance against war risks. The whole money is kept available and a part.

His Excellency's Speech.

His Excellency said that before proceeding to deal with the matters raised by Hon. Members that had not so far been dealt with he would like to state that the debate had traversed more points and in every way had been more satisfactory than any he had listened to since he had been in the Colony on the second reading of the Supply Bill. It showed that hon. members were taking very great interest, which the Government hoped they would always take in the affairs of the Colony and he was particularly attracted by the suggestion made by the Hon. Member on his right (Mr. Landale) that in pursuance of that scheme the expenditure on public works should be submitted to be considered by the Public Works Committee before the estimates were framed. The Government would always be prepared to receive suggestions as to the expenditure of public money, but it must be remembered that in the Royal instructions under which the Government of the Colony worked, every vote of public money, etc. must be proposed by the Governor unless it was expressly allowed or directed by him. He had said every year since he had been in the Colony that he came from the Straits Settlements where the estimates were considered by such a committee as the hon. member proposed. The committee at Singapore consisted of the Colonial Secretary, the Treasurer, with all Unofficial Members, and the committee for Penang consisted of the Resident Councillor and the Unofficial Members of Penang. They went systematically through the estimates item by item, probably sitting three days a week and the estimates had a thorough revision after their introduction in Council and went back to the Council for their second reading in possibly a very much altered form. However, this year he was glad to say Hon. Members had asked for information on certain points and had brought forward a number of most interesting and most useful proposals, which the Government would undoubtedly give their best consideration to. Taking the remarks of Mr. Landale first, the latter had said that the policy of short leases resulted in the shortage of houses. He did not know what around Mr. Landale had for making that statement. Leases for seventy-five years could not be regarded as so short a period as to in any way influence the builders. It was not of course a lease in perpetuity such as the 999 years leases given in the early days of the Colony, but it certainly was a term which would not effect the policy of any man or body of men in putting up a building. As regarded the policy pursued of recent years of requiring a building covenant it had given good results. They saw some of the old lots here, land in quite thickly populated places not built upon because without the condition of the building covenants there was no necessity to build and there was ground which would provide for many houses lying idle in the Colony simply because the owners were waiting for higher prices. On this same subject the hon. member representing the Justices of the Peace suggested that in addition to making roads opening up areas for building the Government should level the sites and build retaining walls and make drains and do other things. Whatever the Government might do in Kowloon, where it was feasible, he thought it would be too much on this side of the harbour to ask them to level the sites and build retaining walls. But it was an interesting question as to whether there might not be more give and take in that matter so as to facilitate the carrying out of the building enterprises, with greater speed, that they would be carried out if the present system continued in

The question with regard to the Observatory, which the honourable member referred to, he could not go into. He knew that when the honourable member spoke about the different storm codes that he was certainly well acquainted with the subject and of what had taken place and he trusted that some arrangement might be arrived at.

On behalf of the Service he must thank honourable members with regard to the salaries of public servants. It was proposed that the salaries of the whole service should be revised and the suggestion that had been made on that subject would have the consideration of the Government. Probably now it would be at an earlier date than was thought possible.

With regard to the smaller sum provided for afforestation that was on the recommendation of the officers and if it were found that a larger sum could be used without waste the larger sum would certainly be asked for. Afforestation in the New Territories was an important subject and they only needed keenness and assistance from the inhabitants of those territories with which it was quite possible that this scheme, beginning as a mere experiment, might develop far more rapidly than they thought, in which case the Government would not hesitate to go to the Council for more money.

With regard to what had been said about the Fire Brigade that point would be carefully noted for consideration.

All the members referred to several points under Education. He would deal first with the question of vernacular education, which was a subject in which he was personally very interested and had been for many years before he came to this Colony. He had made certain suggestions and any delay which took place in dealing with the very generous proposals put forward by Mr. Lau Chu Pak and others in connection with vernacular schools was, he might say, due to his anxiety to try and arrive at a satisfactory arrangement when he had so many other things to do that he could not deal with it. Now it was proposed to give grants but nothing appeared in next year's estimate because the grants did not become payable until near the close of next year, although these schools had come under the grant system. He thought there was no doubt that the Government would consider the question of not only improving the vernacular schools, as they were doing in the New Territory at the present, but of making them free or of merely nominal fees. The Saiyungpun school had for many years past been recognised as on a site quite unsuitable and in a building not nearly large enough for the purpose, but it had been felt that it would be a waste of money to spend further sums in trying to improve the present building. He hoped that before long the school would be moved to a larger and better site and then the Government would no doubt find a very good use for the present site of the school. The merits of the present Headmaster were also thoroughly recognised and he was a man who would get to the top of the tree without any doubt. The reason for the difference between the salaries of the Headmasters of Ellis Kadoorie and Saiyungpun schools was merely that it was found that there was an opportunity for appointing a certain master to the head of Ellis Kadoorie school who was on higher salary. If he were appointed to another post his successor would be at the same salary as the Headmaster of Saiyungpun. There was no difference between the headmastership of the two schools in that sense.

With regard to the removal of restrictions on trade, the present rules were certainly irksome and the work of the Department of Import and exports included certain war measures which would no doubt cease, but nothing had been done as far as he knew during the war of alter the character of a free port which Hongkong possessed.

Hon. Mr. Holyoak queried about the permits necessary for imports and exports.

His Excellency: That does not alter its character as a free port.

Hon. Mr. Holyoak mentioned the duty on tobacco.

His Excellency said that there was a duty on tobacco in the Straits, a free port very jealous of its freedom. A suggestion of a little while ago to alter it raised a storm of protest.

(Continued on page 11.)

THE HEAVIEST MAN.

The Bill was read a second time,
passed through committee without
amendment and was finally agreed
to.

A. Whitehall "indispensable," who is drawing £8 a week for doing so, has just written to suggest that I should buy War Bonds—*Daily Express*.

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